

LAST WEEK'S AVERAGE DAILY SALE 437,000

No 63,255

THE



TIMES

(30p)

SATURDAY DECEMBER 3 1988

# Haughey in summit snub for Thatcher

## Angry exchanges as Ryan row hits EEC

© The row over the Patrick Ryan extradition overshadowed the EEC summit in Rhodes yesterday.  
 © Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey appeared to snub Mrs Thatcher, cancelling planned talks.  
 © The legal row between London and Dublin intensified with Britain implying Irish complaints were insubstantial.

From Richard Owen, Rhodes, and Philip Webster and Jamie Dettmer, London

Britain's relations with Ireland and Belgium plummeted further yesterday at the European Community summit in Rhodes over the extradition controversy surrounding Father Patrick Ryan.

Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, cancelled a planned meeting with Mrs Thatcher, and Mr Wilfried Martens, the Belgian Prime Minister, responded angrily to a "severe dressing down" from her over Belgium's failure to extradite the Irishman to Britain.

Mrs Thatcher told Mr Martens that she was dismayed, mystified and "deeply wounded" by the Irish action. He in turn accused her of not understanding Belgian law.

In London, the Crown Prosecution Service issued a cryptic statement about Dub-

lin's request for further information before it could further consider the extradition request in a manner which suggested it did not regard the issues raised as in any way substantial.

And Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, speaking during the Epping Forest by-election campaign yesterday, said: "We will need to look and so will the Irish at the arrangements which have been discussed but which

clearly don't work in a way which is satisfactory."

The planned bilateral talks between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Haughey may instead be held today, at the end of the two-day summit.

But Irish officials here made little secret of the fact that the Thatcher-Haughey encounter, normally a routine feature of European summits, had been scrapped because of Mr Haughey's resentment over Mrs Thatcher's remarks on the failure of the Irish authorities to apprehend Father Ryan, wanted in Britain as a suspected IRA paymaster and bomb-maker. The official reason given for the cancellation was Mr Haughey's "personal convenience", an apparent reference to his health following a recent operation.

There was further Irish anger over hints that if and when Mrs Thatcher does meet the Taoiseach, she will ask him to redraft Irish extradition law on the ground that it is clearly too complex to work properly.

A spokesman for Mr Haughey said that extradition arrangements between Britain and the Irish Republic were already "the easiest in the EEC". Earlier this year, Mr Haughey agreed to review extradition procedures if they were not working properly.

But officials said it was, in any case, too late to redraft the

Irish Extradition Act before next Tuesday's debate on the subject in the Dail (Irish Parliament).

Yesterday morning, Mrs Thatcher filled what officials called the "hole in her programme" left by Mr Haughey's withdrawal by asking to see Mr Martens. She expressed the dismay "not only of the Government but also of the British people", and said the Belgian Cabinet's decision to let Father Ryan go was a clear breach of the legal advice given to Brussels by the Belgian Supreme Court.

Belgian officials said subsequently, however, that the court's decision was secret, and there was no confirmation that it had recommended extradition.

The Prime Minister told Mr Martens that she found his action "impossible to understand", and said it had dented confidence between their two countries. She said Belgian behaviour contrasted with co-operation given to the Belgians by Britain over the Heysel Stadium disaster, when London had made every effort to ensure the extradition to Belgium of those charged to face "proper trial".

Mrs Thatcher reminded Mr Martens that Father Ryan had been charged with "serious terrorist offences", and that London had fully consulted Brussels in drawing up both the extradition request and sworn statements. The Belgian Court of First Instance had approved extradition in September, and press reports "not denied by the Belgian Government" indicated the Court of Appeal had come to the same conclusion.

She accused Belgium of not intending to tell the British authorities until Father Ryan was in Ireland, giving London no chance to apply to Dublin in time to request his arrest.

In reply, Mr Martens produced an equally thick dossier showing that in Belgium's

# Blast-off for shuttle Atlantis's secret mission



The orbiter Atlantis, on a Defence Department secret mission, taking off from Kennedy Space Centre after a one-day delay. Report, page 16.

## Soviet hijackers give themselves up in Israel

Tel Aviv (Reuters) - Five hijackers who commandeered a Soviet transport plane and forced it to fly to Israel surrendered to authorities at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport last night soon after landing, an army spokesman said.

The four men and a woman handed over a revolver and a large sum of money they had stolen in the Soviet Union, he said. "It's all over and no one was hurt."

Asked if the gunmen were Jewish, the spokesman said: "They did not identify themselves but I don't think they came here for Zionist reasons."

The hijacking began on Thursday when the assailants stole a school bus with pupils and teachers on board in the southern Russian city of Ordzhonikidze, and demanded to be flown out of the Soviet Union, officials in Moscow said.

"To save the teachers and children, a decision was taken to provide a plane to the

bandits," Mr Albert Vlasov, head of the official Novosti news agency, told reporters.

The hostages were released after Soviet authorities provided an Aeroflot transport plane.

The Soviet news agency Tass said that while negotiations were conducted between the authorities and the hijackers, the crew were handcuffed at the hijackers' demand.

Communist Party sources in Ordzhonikidze said the gunmen were believed to be two Russians, two Armenians, and one Ossetian, a member of a small Transcaucasian national minority.

They did not believe the seizure of the plane was connected with the ethnic unrest that has rocked Armenia and the neighbouring republic of Azerbaijan this year.

There was no communication between the control tower and the hijackers for the first 20 minutes after the plane landed.

Security sources said Israeli

Airforce jets escorted the Soviet transport plane in. The decision to authorize landing was taken after consulting the ministers of defence, transport and police.

The pilot, who spoke only Russian, said the hijackers wanted a walkie-talkie on landing to state their demands. Through an interpreter, the control tower asked: "May we speak with the hijackers?" The pilot replied: "No."

Earlier, Mr Haim Corfu, the Israeli transport minister, told reporters at the airport that the plane might not be allowed to land in Israel, or might be diverted to a military airfield, if there were no hostages aboard.

The Israeli broadcasting service said later that the Soviet Union had made a formal request through the Soviet consular delegation in Tel Aviv for Israel to arrest and extradite the hijackers.

A security spokesman said the hijackers would be treated as criminals.

## Heavy demand for Steel shares

By David Brewerton

Investors put up a total of more than £4 billion for the £2.5 billion sell-off of British Steel, despite a falling stock market.

In a result which seemed to have surprised even the sponsors of the issue, when lists closed yesterday morning at 10.01 am, public applications had been submitted for more than a billion shares.

Only a week earlier, it had been feared that a sharp setback in the stock market caused by poor trade figures would put the sell-off in danger.

More than 500,000 applications were received in the public offer for sale, and while the bankers were still counting and processing the forms last night, it appears that requests were submitted for up to two and a half times the number of shares on offer.

The main part of the total issue of two billion shares had already been sold to institutions in Britain and to overseas investors, leaving only

452 million shares for the public offer.

In the event, demand was high enough to trigger "claw-back" clauses under which not only the overseas investors but also British institutions will have to forego part of

their allocations in favour of the public applicants.

The offer was priced to attract the maximum number of investors, and when the issue price of 125p was set by Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, he faced claims that he was selling "too cheaply."

But the day after the price was announced, October's trade figures revealed a £2.4 billion trade gap, which hit the stock market and raised doubts that the issue would be fully subscribed.

Details of the allocations of shares will be announced tomorrow.

## In today's 56-page Times

### SECTION 1

Home news	3-5
Overseas news	6-8
Births, marriages, deaths	13
Court & Social	12
Crossword	18
Diary	11
Leading articles	11
Letters	11
On This Day	10
Opinion	10
Obituaries	12
Parliament	4
Religion	12
Services	13
Shoparound	14
Universities	12
Weather	16
Wills	12

### SECTION 2

Business news	17-21
Family Money	22-27
Letters	24
Stocks, unit trusts	21, 26

### SECTION 3

Arts	32, 33
Arts Diary	33
Books	37
Eating Out	38
Entertainments	34, 40
Food and drink	39
Radio	44
Records	35
Travel	41-43
Television	44
Week Ahead	40

### SECTION 4

Sport	45-52
Fixtures, TV sport	52
Racing	50, 51
Bridge	54
Chess	54
Crossword	54
Gardening	54
Leisure	53, 54
Property	55

### INSIDE

## Argentine rebellion

As President Alfonsín of Argentina prepared to address the UN General Assembly yesterday the Argentine Army high command sent troops to the country's largest military base to crush a rebellion. *Loyal soldiers* page 8

## Sex assault case judge to retire immediately

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Judge Harold Cassell, who was criticized for his remarks when sentencing a man convicted of indecently assaulting his stepdaughter, is to retire immediately on medical grounds. The judge who is 72, could have continued on the bench until next June.

A statement from the Lord Chancellor's Office said that he tendered his resignation the

day before his controversial comments at Knightsbridge Crown Court. The letter was received on the day of the case.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, said: "Having now seen a report of the case, I wish to put on record my personal disapproval of the remarks he made when passing sentence."

## TV chiefs praise superno choice

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Mr George Russell, chief executive of the Marley building group and recently appointed chairman of ITN, was named last night as the new commercial television superno who will oversee Britain's television revolution in the 1990s.



Mr George Russell: knowledge of commercial TV.

He will not only take over from Lord Thomson of Monifieth as chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority in the New Year, but also head the authority's successor body, the Independent Television Commission.

His appointment by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, was greeted with undisguised glee by broadcasters last night.

Mr Russell, aged 53, not only has a first class record in commerce and industry, but also an intimate knowledge and understanding of commercial television in Britain. He was a lay member on the IBA between 1979 and 1986 before taking up the deputy chairmanship of Channel 4 in January 1987. In

## Aberdeen University faces insolvency

By Sam Kiley, Higher Education Reporter

The University of Aberdeen is accumulating debt at a rate of £2 million a year and faces insolvency unless it receives a substantial injection of funds, according to an in-depth study of the university's financial state.

The report, financed by the Universities Grants Committee, says the position is "clearly untenable, not only for itself and its staff and students but also for the UGC and ultimately the Government".

In the report Segal, Quince, Wicksteed, the management consultants, say the committee should "provide special financial assistance to the university to enable it to get its deficit fully under control", providing it complied with recommendations to rationalize its management structure, improve financial planning, produce a plan to elimi-

nate the deficit and postpone new developments.

An extra £5 million should be paid to the university over four years, starting with an emergency payment of £2 million next year if the university and the committee agree to comply with recommendations, which require it to save an extra £2 million over the next two years.

Professor George McNicol, principal of the university, yesterday said it was reassuring that an independent financial firm thought the university was in sufficiently good heart to warrant an extra £5 million of taxpayers' money.

He said £1 million could be saved from the "non-payroll" sector of the university but cuts of a further £1 million would result in the loss of at least 35 jobs.

The University of Aberdeen already plans to cut 130 jobs as part of a financial rescue plan launched in November 1987 and was forced to cut staff by a quarter

after severe cutbacks in its Government grant in 1982.

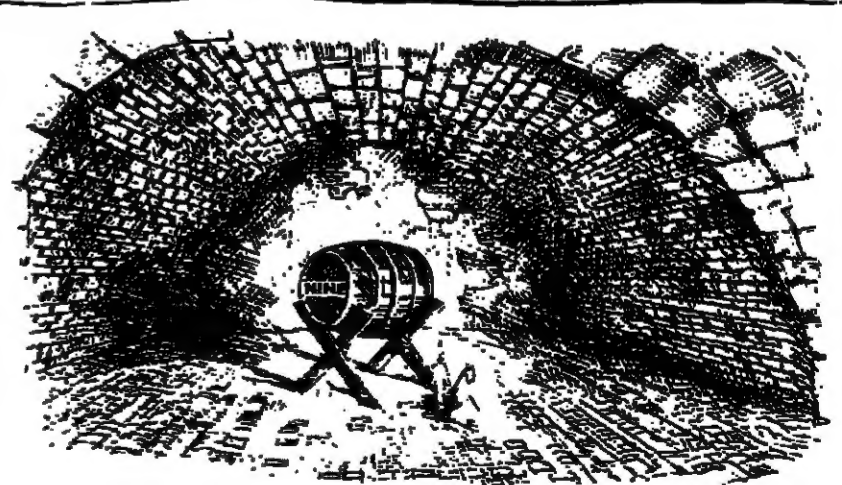
Professor McNicol said the job losses were "regrettable" and he called on the university Senate, which meets next Wednesday, to support the plan.

The university deficit is between £9 and £10 million and increasing at £2 million a year at present prices.

"We have found no inherent reason to doubt the long-term viability of the university," says the report, which also criticizes the university for operating at high unit costs and being slow to attract research funds.

A university spokesman said the principal was not prepared to discuss what would happen if the extra £5 million was not forthcoming from the UGC.

"Our attitude is the same as the consultants, collapse is not an option. It is inconceivable that the university would be allowed to go bust," he said.



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Three years  
over false

walker fears

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IMPORTANT  
PUBLIC AUCTION  
FURNISH CARPETS



# Three years for woman over false rape story

A woman aged 19 who falsely accused a former boy friend of rape was sentenced to three years in a young offenders' institution yesterday after admitting attempting to pervert the court of justice.

After she was sentenced, the man she wrongly accused, Thomas Glencross, a sign writer, told how he sat in a prison cell dreading he would never be able to prove his innocence. He is expected to receive compensation for his ordeal from the Home Office.

Mr Glencross, aged 26, of Stamford, Lincolnshire, was held for two weeks in Lincoln prison on the false rape charge and feared he would get a 10-year sentence before his "victim", Sara-Jane Goodwin, confessed to the police that she had lied.

Judge Hutchinson told Goodwin at Lincoln Crown Court: "What you did was wicked beyond belief. Fourteen days in Lincoln prison accused of a rape he did not commit must have been 14 days of mental anguish for Mr

Glencross.

"Had you maintained your full lying story it might have been that this unfortunate man would have found himself in court and, had he been convicted, the least sentence he could have expected was one of five years."

Mr Glencross was arrested and charged with raping Goodwin in the car park of a Stamford public house last July. Although he protested his innocence he was charged and remanded to Lincoln prison.

Mr Nicholas Dean, for the prosecution, told the court yesterday that it was only as a result of further police inquiries that Mr Glencross was released from prison after officers tracked down an airman from RAF Wittering with whom Goodwin had spent the whole of the night when she alleged she had been raped by her former boy friend.

Goodwin told police she had invented the story of the rape because she returned to Stamford after spending the

night away from home and was reported to the police as missing by her parents.

But, Mr Dean said, she had given police a 25-page statement which even included the exact descriptions of jewellery and after shave she alleged had been worn by Mr Glencross when he raped her.

Mr Dean said: "It was a vivid and detailed account of rape. Her statement painted a picture of Glencross as a man who over previous weeks has continually pestered and threatened her because he supposedly could not accept their relationship was over. It amounted to a convincing account."

Mr Baz Bhatia, in mitigation, described Goodwin's story as a tale which rollercoasted out of all proportion.

Mr Glencross said afterwards: "Three years is not enough. She should have got 10 years. She has wrecked my life. I hate that girl for what she has done to me."

"One of the inmates advised me to ask to be transferred to part of the prison with greater protection for my own good. I was told that rapists were not treated kindly and I could meet a nasty accident. I was told that rapists could get thrown over the balcony, but I said I would not go anywhere else because I was innocent."

"What really frightened me was that I was looking at an eight or 10-year sentence, but the police would not believe that I was innocent."

Mr Glencross said that he had gone out with Goodwin until two years ago. He had seen her at the Riverside club in Stamford on the night of the alleged rape but had not gone anywhere near her. Goodwin, he said, was always following him.

Mr Michael Pratt, Mr Glencross's solicitor, said that the Home Office had agreed that he should receive a payment for what had happened and that an independent assessor would now fix the amount to be offered.

## Relishing the trophies

NICK ROGERS



The world's most expensive twentieth century painting, drawing and sculpture lined up as trophies around Mr Charles Allsopp, chairman of Christie's London, who sold all three. When they are fully paid for they will be dispersed to unknown destinations (Sarah Jane Checkland writes). Picasso's "Acrobat at Jemne Arlequin", which fetched £20.9 million, is destined for Japan, having been bought for an anonymous collector there by an agent from the Mitsukoshi department store. But Christie's refuses to disclose the new address of the

picture held by Mr Allsopp - Picasso's "Nature Morte aux Cartes-a-Jeu et Peches" (£838,000) - or Giacometti's sculpture, "L'Homme qui March" (£3.74 million).

Apart from those record-breaking sales, Christie's achieved £77.4 million at sales in London and Glasgow last week. It stands to gain more than £5 million from the three records alone, with 10 per cent commission on each from both buyer and seller. But Mr Allsopp has now developed a septic elbow in his gavel-wielding arm after a fall.

## Mother 'threatened to kill baby'

A mother charged with murdering her daughter aged 16 months told a social worker she had threatened to kill the child three months before, the Central Criminal Court heard yesterday.

Miss Gillian Langford said she had seen Christine Mason,

aged 22, and her baby Doreen at a Brixton family centre, in south London, in June last year. She said: "Mason told me an argument had broken out between her and her sister, and she wanted to prove to her sister that she could better Doreen if she wanted". Miss

Langford said: "She told me that she had threatened to kill her".

Miss Mason and Roy Aston, aged 24, of Arnold House, Duddington Grove, Waltham, south-east London, deny murder and child cruelty. The case continues.

## Jaywalker fears £485,000 crash costs

By Kerry Gill and Harry Debelius

A Glasgow mechanic faced with a £335,000 fine for causing a fatal accident on his first trip to Spain was last night waiting to hear if he has incurred a further £150,000 damages.

Mr Bobby Williamson, aged 47, of Appin Terrace, Burnside, Glasgow, jaywalked across the notorious Costa del Sol motorway, two years ago.

The driver of an approaching juggernaut was forced to swerve, lost control and smashed into a police car and another car containing a British couple at 90 kilometres an hour.

A Spanish police officer was killed and the couple, along with another officer, were seriously injured. Mr Thomas

Usher, a company director, and his wife, Claire, of Craven Street, London, have already been awarded nearly £100,000 against Mr Williamson in damages and hospital fees.

Yesterday, they were appealing to the court in Fuengirola, near Malaga, for another £150,000. The dead police officer's family have already been awarded £150,000 and the injured officer £42,000 in damages.

Mr Williamson, who earns £110 a week, said he saw no way in which he could raise the money. "I am already at my wits' end and cannot believe they can expect me to pay", he said.

Mr Len Murray, a Glasgow lawyer who has just returned from Spain, said he believed that the Spanish equivalent of the Motor Insurers Bureau

would eventually pick up the bill. He said the fact that Mr Williamson had been pursued for the money would probably be a way for the Spanish authorities to establish the claim.

An insurance expert said: "Most tour operators provide policies with public liability cover against accidental damage to others. It seems likely that the insurers would be prepared to cover provided he contacted them at or immediately after the time of the accident, so they could defend him."

Senior Diego Ledesma, Mr Williamson's lawyer, said yesterday that Mr Williamson was covered by a comprehensive accident insurance policy at the time of the multiple collision on Boxing Day 1986. "It's up to the insurers to settle the matter", he said.

## Police defend shooting of 'gunman'

By Andrew Moger and Mark Souster

Senior Metropolitan Police officers yesterday defended the decision to shoot a gunman who took a hostage in London's West End on Wednesday night, despite confirming that his "pistol" was a replica handgun.

At a press conference at Scotland Yard, Deputy Assistant Commissioner David Meynell, who was in charge of the three-hour siege operation, said officers at the scene believed the gun was real and loaded. Mr Meynell said that after the gunman - known as Metal Mickey - was shot, a

"replica handgun in the cocked position" was recovered.

He added: "It is always regrettable when force is required to end an armed situation. This is particularly so when the weapon is subsequently found to be an imitation."

Metal Mickey, aged 24, heavily tattooed and of no fixed abode, was shot by one rifle round near the right shoulder blade. The bullet exited on the right side of his chest.

The siege, which brought

chaos to the West End, began when plainclothes policemen were approached by a man who told them he had been threatened.

"At about 22.30pm, the man was confronted outside the Post Office", Mr Meynell said. "A struggle ensued, during which he produced a handgun and grabbed a passer-by, whom he then threatened with a gun."

Surrounding streets were cordoned off and negotiations began, using a loudhailer. The man moved around the streets, continually issuing

threats. "At about 1.00am it became apparent that negotiations had broken down", Mr Meynell said.

"There were real fears for the safety of the hostage and other persons. The decision was taken to use force."

"The gunman was shot in the doorway of a Catholic church in Maiden Lane."

He was taken to Westminster Hospital, where he was in a stable condition yesterday. His hostage was unharmed. Charges are expected next week.

## Egg study grant withdrawn

By Robin Young

The Ministry of Agriculture, which said yesterday that it is seeking ways to combat the infection of eggs and poultry with salmonella, has withdrawn its grant from one research project which had shown promising results in ridding flocks of the bacteria.

It is also likely to end another, concerning hygiene in poultry slaughterhouses, under reorganization plans next year.

The project, which is to be brought to an end in March, long before its field studies have been completed, was being pursued by Dr Geoff Mead at the Institute of Food Research's laboratory in Bristol.

It was based on the theory that the spread of salmonella, now thought to infect as many as half the nation's poultry flocks, has been assisted by intensified rearing methods.

Dr Mead believes that salmonella finds ready hosts in chicks which have been raised in isolation and have no natural microbiological flora in the gut.

His attempts to restore to chicks the gut microbes that they would, in conventional farming, have inherited from

Scientists were continuing tests on flocks yesterday after fears that the dried fruit may contain a cancer-causing substance, aflatoxin. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food said no decision was likely before early next week.

Their parents, had succeeded in keeping salmonella out of 20 flocks out of 22 included in the trials to date.

The ministry's decision to withdraw the grant for the research was made known a fortnight ago, and as yet no poultry industry source has expressed interest in funding its continuation.

The other project, aimed at improving hygiene in slaughterhouses, has been pursued by the Institute of Animal Health's Poultry Research Station at its Houghton Laboratory.

It is likely to be brought to a premature end next July or August when the Houghton staff are to move to the institute's premises at Compton, near Newbury, Berkshire, under rationalization plans. There are no facilities for research on poultry at Compton.

Research on hygiene at slaughter could be relevant to

the present outbreaks of salmonella enteritidis phage-type 4 in eggs, since one possible method of spread that has been suggested is in the practice of including slaughterhouse waste in poultry feed.

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr John Macgregor, said last week that there had been only 26 cases of salmonella poisoning this year and contrasted that with a daily consumption of 30 million eggs a day.

In fact there have been 26 confirmed outbreaks of salmonella poisoning involving 450 people, and environmental health officers say they have reported at least another 20 outbreaks of salmonella poisoning in which eggs may be implicated.

Salmonella enteritidis is specific to chickens, and fears that it could infect the birds' oviducts and pass directly into egg yolks were first reported in *The Times* in April this year.

At that time the Department of Health and Social Security said that there was no reason to offer new advice about consumption, but in August, on the advice of the chief medical officer, the Department issued a warning against the consumption of raw or partly cooked eggs.

## Life term 'to protect children'

A man aged 38 was jailed for life by a Central Criminal Court judge yesterday to save children from his "revolting behaviour".

Sir James Miskin, the Recorder of London, told Edwin Wallis, of Paddington, west London, that he was a "total and repetitive menace to the young."

"Both as punishment, having regard to your past behaviour, but much more importantly to save other youngsters from your revolting behaviour, you will go to prison for life."

Wallis was given life when he admitted two serious sexual offences and a further six years of concurrent jail terms for four indecent assaults, on a boy aged four and his brothers aged six and nine, in woods at Chislehurst, south-west London.

Wallis and another man, Nigel Curwen, aged 30, also of Paddington, were re-arrested after being remanded for psychiatric reports.

Curwen was jailed for five years after admitting one offence of serious sexual assault and two of indecent assault involving the same victims.

## Ashton leaves Ondone royalties to Fonteyn

By Andrew Billen, Arts Correspondent

In his last gift to ballet Sir Frederick Ashton, the choreographer, left thousands of pounds and a host of royalties rights to a dancer with whom he worked, it was disclosed yesterday.

Sir Frederick, founder choreographer for the Royal Ballet, died in August at the age of 83. In his will, published yesterday, his estate was valued at more than £1 million.

Dame Margot Fonteyn, who lives in Panama, will receive the royalties for *Ondone*, the ballet he devised for her in 1958. She was also left Sir Frederick's royalties from *Daphnis and Chloe*, as well as £10,000.

Mr Anthony Dowell, the Royal Ballet director and one of Britain's most outstanding post-war dancers, was left the

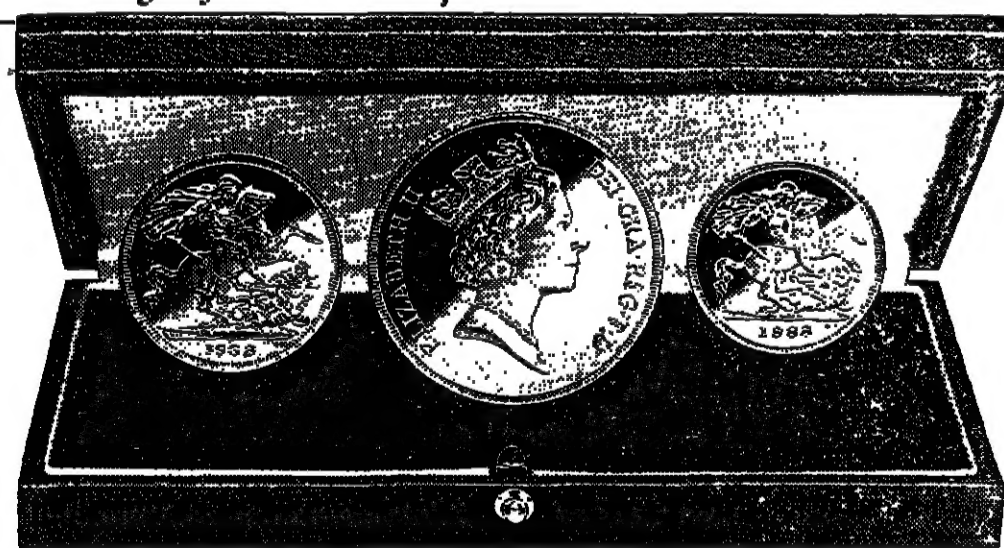
rights to *The Dream* and *A Month in the Country*. Sir Frederick left £20,000 and his royalties from *Cinderella* and *Symphonic Variations* to Mr Michael Somes, former principal *répétiteur* (teacher) at the Royal Ballet.

Alexander Grant, the character dancer who retired in 1976 after 30 years with the Royal Ballet, receives £20,000 and the royalties from *La Fille Mal Gardée* and *Faade*.

Mr Antony Dyson, of Brixton, south-west London, was left £40,000 and the royalties from *Exigence Variations* and *Monotones I and II*.

Mr Brian Shaw, of Fulham, south-west London, receives £10,000 and the royalties from *Les Patineurs* and *Rendezvous*. Sir Frederick left £1,161,845 after tax.

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## NEWS ROUNDUP

## Two killed after welding blast

Two people were killed and another two injured when an explosion and fire destroyed a garage near Orpington, Kent, yesterday. The blast happened just after lunchtime in workshops at Limes Garage in Green Street Green, near the M25. Firemen believe it may have been sparked off by a welding accident.

Two people said to be seriously injured were taken to Bromley Hospital. Firemen wearing breathing apparatus later pulled out two bodies from the blaze. The names of the two dead workers were not being released until they were formally identified.

## Opt-out from STV job

Mr Bill Cockburn, managing director of Royal Mail Letters, yesterday unexpectedly announced that he was no longer interested in the post of managing director of Scottish Television. His announcement came shortly before the Scottish Television board met to decide who should succeed Mr Bill Brown, who is to retire in June. Mr Cockburn, aged 45, had been widely tipped for the position. The board decided to postpone the question of Mr Brown's successor. The two most favoured contenders are now Mr Gus Macdonald, the station's director of programmes, and Mr Alan Montgomery, the finance director.

## Police 'taped' inquiry

Policemen in the West Midlands force said they had been framed by their own officers when devices were used to tape conversations with a suspected criminal. The complaints department planted a microphone on a fraud suspect when he was interviewed by burglary squad detectives on Wednesday. The officers were taped during the interview and shortly afterwards their offices were raided by members of the department. An inquiry has been ordered into the use of tape recordings.

## Father is acquitted

A man who stabbed his heroin addict son to death with a 14in kitchen knife was released yesterday after being acquitted by a jury at Liverpool Crown Court. The jury, of eight men and four women, found Mr John Albertina, aged 51, of Benedict Street, Liverpool, not guilty of murdering Stephen, aged 21, on March 11 this year. He was also found not guilty of the lesser charge of manslaughter. Mr Albertina told the court he stabbed Stephen in self-defence after his son came at him armed with a wrench, during a violent family dispute.

## Hill protection plan

A protection plan for the Quantock Hills in west Somerset, including restrictions on staghunting to prevent further erosion, is detailed in a report today. The Quantock Hills management plan has taken three years to produce and suggests a winter ban on the use of the hills by large groups, such as hunt followers, who would be asked to meet in less vulnerable areas. The Quantock Staghounds says that would be impractical. The plan proposes 40 measures to minimize damage, including the "quiet period" in December and January, when the hills are at their wettest.

## Cathedral pledge

The Dean of Gloucester Cathedral, the Very Rev Kenneth Jennings, yesterday gave an assurance that the building's most important treasure, a medieval effigy of the Duke Robert of Normandy, the eldest son of William the Conqueror, would not be sold to raise funds for the £4 million restoration campaign which was launched with the Prince of Wales as its patron. The appeal will mark the 900th anniversary next year of the building which is the closest cathedral to the Prince's country home at Highgrove.

## 'Stayaway' ruling for soccer thugs

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Football supporters convicted of hooliganism are to be prevented from attending big matches abroad.

They will have to report in to an attendance centre, probation officer or other suitable agency at the time the matches are played.

Announcing the new crackdown yesterday, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, disclosed that he was also considering extending the restrictions to offenders convicted abroad of football hooligan offences. The new powers are to be included in the Football Spectators Bill, which will bring in the national membership scheme. They will be in force by early 1990.

Supporters convicted of hooliganism will still be penalized in the normal way. They will have a restriction order added to their sentence.

People convicted in foreign courts face being brought before a British court to have a restriction order imposed.

## Student loans 'could cut numbers at colleges'

By Sam Kiley  
Higher Education Reporter

Government proposals to introduce student loans could depress the number of teenagers going into higher education, putting a "severe brake on the economy", educationists said yesterday.

That is even though job prospects for graduates now are considered better than they have been for a decade, and likely to improve as the number of 18-year-olds falls.

Mr Jack Straw, Opposition spokesman on education, said yesterday that proposals to introduce top-up loans for students would put school leavers off the idea of going into higher education.

"There is no doubt that loans will be off-putting to sixth formers, particularly since they will be attracted into jobs at 18 by recruit-hungry employers", he said. "At no stage has the Government been able

The Government has privately warned Conservative opponents of the so-called closed shop operated by the National Union of Students that it will have to tread warily in any attempt at reform. It has pointed out the risk of further antagonizing dons and questioned the wisdom of taking on the union while it is bringing forward controversial proposals for loans for undergraduates. Critics of the NUS, who include more than 200 Tory backbenchers, including Mr Norman Tebbit and Mr Michael Heseltine and Conservative College Board, the official Tory higher education body, have also been told that many students value the welfare services provided by their local student unions. The

should be done in any way which would lead to a decline in the number of students - a shortage of graduates will be a chronic brake on the economy".

A number of sectors have begun recruiting graduates for the first time and the unemployment rate among them has dropped consistently since 1982, according to a survey published by the Association

of Graduate Careers Advisory Services. A total of 5.9 per cent of university graduates, 9.2 per cent of those leaving polytechnics and 8.3 per cent of those who left colleges of higher education in 1987, faced unemployment six months after graduating, the survey said.

According to the AGCAS report *What do Graduates do?*, which is

published as a guide for sixth formers, "it is possible that the employers' growing need for more graduates may not be met". The "growing need" for graduates is reflected in increased recruitment among mature students, who have traditionally fared less well. Graduates in electronics and communications engineering were among the most sought-after as were those with degrees in accountancy, engineering, and medicine and dentistry.

More graduates are being recruited into retailing, building societies, and the leisure industries, and the report says that the demand for graduates looking for jobs in these sectors is likely to increase.

*What do Graduates do?* (Hobsons Publishing, Bateman Street, Cambridge CB2 1LZ; £2.50 plus 75p postage).

Warning on NUS, page 5

## Hazards of buying local tank 'widely exaggerated'

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The risk facing the Government if it commits more than £1 billion to buy the British Challenger Mark 2 battle tank has been widely exaggerated, senior industry sources said yesterday.

The Government is expected to make a final decision by December 15 on whether to choose the Challenger 2, being developed by Vickers Defence Systems of Leeds, or the M1A1 Abrams, built by the US company, General Dynamics.

A common argument against the Challenger 2 is that it is a "paper tank" compared with the Abrams, which is in service with the US army. The Challenger 2 will not be in prototype form until 1990. British army chiefs insist that the 500 ageing Chieftains still in service in Germany must be replaced by the early 1990s.

But in detailed presentations at a special briefing at the Ministry of Defence in September, Vickers demonstrated that all components of Challenger 2 have now been built and individually tested.

The remaining technical challenge is to integrate the system.

Vickers admits this is where the element of risk comes in, but claims the risk is low because there is enough time and expertise to overcome the problems.

Mr Derek Fatchett, Labour MP for Leeds Central, who sponsored a Commons motion calling on the Cabinet to award the contract to Vickers, yesterday on a visit to the Vickers factory in Leeds, said: "Vickers feels that the Challenger 2 will be competitive in terms of technology, performance and price."

"The workforce here has the experience and technical know-how to overcome any problems and to produce a tank that will meet the Army's

specifications and in the right timescale. I find it extremely worrying that the Government has not been prepared to commit itself to the British workforce and to British technology."

Vickers has told the ministers that some key components of Challenger 2 will be foreign, not British.

The development of the tank's turret is proceeding in collaboration with several overseas companies. The computer for the fire control system - the aiming and firing equipment - has been built by CDC of Canada.

The Canadian computer is already fitted in the M1A1 Abrams but the Challenger 2 will be of a later generation.

SFIM, a French company, has developed the tank commander's primary sight, while Sagem, another French firm, in collaboration with Barr and Stroud of Britain, have produced the gunner's primary sight. The gun-control equipment is built by Marconi.

The Abrams is recognized as a proven tank with superior speed and fire control capability compared with the Challenger 1. But the M1A1 Abrams does not yet meet the British Army's specifications.

A key requirement is for an auxiliary engine which will conserve fuel and reduce the thermal signature created by exhaust fumes when the tank is under camouflage.

The current Abrams has only one gas turbine engine whereas the Challenger 1 and 2 have an auxiliary. The M1A1 Abrams "block 2" being offered to Britain will have two engines.

A major concern of the Government is the cost of running the Abrams.

One report suggested the Abrams would consume 496 gallons of fuel a day compared with Challenger's 284 gallons.

## Trout return to loch

IAN STEWART



Mr Donald McMillan checking fish taken from Loch Fleet, Dumfries and Galloway, after the electricity industry's successful five-year project to revive trout breeding there.

By Kerry Gill

Trout have begun breeding for the first time since the mid 1960s in the once-barren waters of a Scottish loch after a revitalisation project by the electricity industry.

The waters of Loch Fleet in Dumfries and Galloway gradually became too acidic for fish to survive because of the surrounding peaty soil conditions and over the past 70 years indigenous trout gradually disappeared.

A venture sponsored by the South of Scotland Electricity Board, the North of Scotland Hydro Board, the Central Electricity Generating Board and British Coal during the past five years has led to the discovery of young trout in the loch.

Adult trout have begun breeding after treatment of the surrounding land, which included the deposit of almost 500 tonnes of limestone throughout the drainage area.

The brown trout fry, the offspring of 300 adults released in May last year, provide important evidence that the revitalisation methods of the project can be used to reclaim

other waters affected by acidity and acid rain.

Many freshwater fisheries in parts of northern Europe have been badly damaged by sulphur dioxide emissions from fossil-fuelled power stations, and there has been increasing evidence that salmon and sea trout have been killed off in the west of Scotland over the past 30 years.

It is believed that industrial pollution has accelerated the natural acidification found in soils in areas where soil is thin and low in important neutralising agents such as calcium. Mr Bryan Stewart, principal chemist with the South of Scotland Electricity Board, said: "The planting of trees may also have contributed to acidification of lakes and streams. Whatever the cause, toxic forms of aluminium are released from such soils under these conditions and it is the combination of high acidity, high aluminium and low calcium which is harmful to fish."

As recently as the 1940s, anglers could hope to catch about 100 brown trout each year in the 43-acre loch, but catches quickly declined.

## Help for parents of sick children

By Jill Sherman  
Social Services Correspondent

Guidelines to give parents greater rights of access to their children in hospital are to be issued by the Government early next year as part of a drive to improve child health services.

A circular, which will be sent to all health authorities in February, will call on every hospital children's department to provide facilities to ensure that parents can stay with their children day and night.

Disclosing details of the guidelines yesterday, Mrs Edwina Currie, Under-Secretary of State for Health, said that families should become more involved in the health care of their children.

"Parents should be regarded as a resource not a nuisance", she said. Speaking at a conference on child health care, held by the National Association of Health Authorities, Mrs Currie said that hospitals should abolish any rules which at the moment restrict parents from visiting their children at all times.

They should also ensure that any decision to advise the parent on medical grounds not to visit a child on a particular occasion was made only by the consultant in charge.

"We believe that children have a right to the care and comfort of their parents whilst in hospital and that parents should be positively encouraged to stay with them."

Professor Philip Graham, head of child psychiatry at the Institute of Child Health, London, claimed that in some districts the majority of children in hospital were not nursed in a children's ward. There was also a severe shortage of paediatrically trained nurses.

He also called on health authorities to oppose the freezing and gradual erosion of child benefit. "The benefit is paid directly to the mother and there is good evidence that it is used for the benefit of the child."

However speaking to journalists later Mrs Currie said that a universal child benefit was not appropriate to the 1980s.

December 2 1988

## PARLIAMENT

## MPs' wait for better conditions

By Sheila Gann

MPs have been dreaming since 1945 of the day when they have room of their own at Westminster.

Schemes for building or converting sites around Westminster have been drawn up regularly since then. All founded, either for want of Government money or controversy over the plans.

The history of disputes dates back to 1732 when William Kent was asked to plan a simple but dignified building for the Lords and Commons. But Parliament had to wait until the fire of 1834 for a new building.

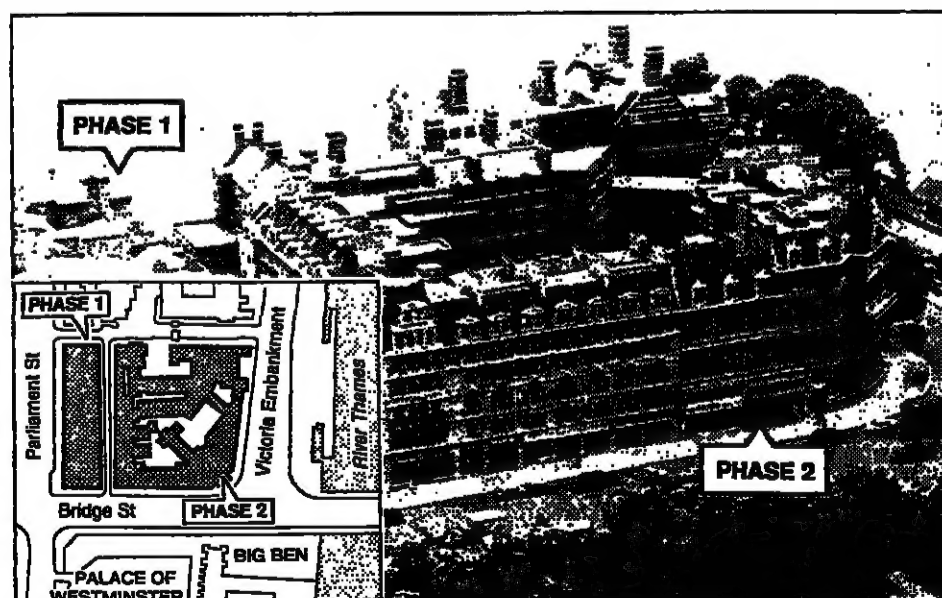
The destruction of the Victorian Commons chamber by fire on the night of May 11, 1941, gave a chance to provide further accommodation for MPs and their staff.

Ad hoc committees and various building schemes litter the history of Westminster in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s.

But in 1983 the Commons voted to redevelop the Bridge Street site, bordered by Parliament Street and the Embankment, to provide MPs and their staff with accommodation that at least matched that of Whitehall civil servants. The target set was that by 1995 every MP should have an office. It is unlikely to be achieved.

Following a general election the battle for space for each MP plus secretary is fierce and often emotional.

There are 165 single rooms for MPs in the Palace of Westminster, mainly occupied by ministers and other office-holders, and 95 singles in out-



Map and artist's impression of the two-phase project.

buildings. Most of the other 388 MPs have to share. Of the 410 secretaries, 314 have to share a room with at least three others. On average a senior civil servant enjoys four times more office space than an MP.

Security is also a nightmare as police have to guard both the Palace of Westminster, the six outbuildings used by MPs and staff and supervise all comings and goings.

Some improvement is at last in sight. By the end of the summer recess in 1990, Phase One of the Bridge Street redevelopment is due to be completed and the old Cannon Row police station will also be converted to offices.

The buildings facing Bridge Street, Parliament Square, Parliament Street and Cannon Row are being gutted to make way for offices for 60 MPs and 100 secretaries together with new

library, space, restaurant, bar and a parliamentary bookshop.

This Phase One, £30 million development drawn up by Sir Hugh Casson, preserves the historic facades, many of them listed.

The hitch is Phase Two - the development of the river portion of the Bridge Street site around Westminster underground station.

Sir Hugh's firm of architects, Casson Condon Partnership, drew up a design study for the £70 million development of the site, including fountains, moving the underground entrance and building over the line. MPs recoiled from such luxury and asked the Government's own Property Services Agency to draw up a "bargain basement" scheme costing at £47 million.

The Government is veering towards the cheaper scheme and, on the advice of a Com-

mons committee, is to order further studies into a suitable architectural style for the sensitive site and investigate how to get the best use of the existing buildings.

But there is little optimism that it will be finished before the end of the century.

Following yesterday's debate Mr Christopher Chope, a junior Environment Minister, told *The Times*: "The refurbishment of the old Cannon Row police station and first phase of the Bridge Street redevelopment will provide extra offices for 60 MPs and 140 Members' secretaries. Work is well under way and these projects are due to be completed in 1989 and 1990, respectively."

"The decision to proceed with the next stage of the redevelopment by commissioning detailed planning studies is most welcome."

## Wakeham backs 'gracious' new Westminster building

Plans to increase office accommodation at the Palace of Westminster would create a gracious scheme at reasonable cost, Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, said during debate on a select committee report.

Opening the debate, Mr Wakeham said that accommodation had long been felt to be unsatisfactory. About 500 MPs had access to only 150 single rooms.

Casson Condon Partnership had produced a design study for the site and the Property Services Agency had put together an alternative strategy. The two were not mutually exclusive. One could be combined with elements of the other. The Casson Condon proposals would add about a year to the timetable. The committee believed that it was more important to press ahead and that part of the work involved in the Casson proposals could be added later.

The PSA proposals would cost £47 million and the Casson Condon proposals £70 million.

The site being next to "one of the most famous and beautiful Victorian buildings in the world", the committee had emphasized that it would be unfortunate if an insensitive and utilitarian building design were adopted for speed and economy. "But we should not be too extravagant, either."

"The way forward recommended by the Services Committee would give us a gracious scheme of a fitting standard for our parliamentary purposes without making undue demands on the public purse."

Mr Ray Powell, chairman of the select committee, said that MPs worked in impossi-

ble and squalid conditions. "The building that we work in is an architectural masterpiece but it was designed for the part-time, gentlemen MPs of the 19th century (not for modern MPs who require staff, space and facilities to cope with the burden of constituency work and the sheer slog of parliamentary duties."

There should not be any more excuses for delay.

Facilities should be made available for the computers of the young intake educated in modern technology. "The present lack of accommodation is not merely a minor inconvenience to a few MPs. It is a curb on the effectiveness of Parliament."

The sub-committee has no intention of angering the heir to the throne by permitting the building of a monstrous curlicue on this site. The restrained classical style, dignified but not seeking to distract attention from the Palace opposite, would be suitable."

Mr Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C) said that when he first came he had, for a very short time only, two days actually had to share an office with Mrs Edwina Currie. "This is not a joy."

Calls for food shops in the new building should be resisted. He did not want people coming to the House to do their Christmas shopping nor to buy their cat food.

Miss Ann Widdecombe (Maidstone, C) said that working MPs were at the House for long hours and had no chance to do their shopping. "It is really unbalanced to have one tiny area selling necessities when we have one area selling posh Parker pens and souvenirs."

Mr Alan Williams, an Opposition spokesman on House of Commons affairs, said that, in addition to MPs, 4,000 people worked at Westminster. The workforce was exempt from employment protection conditions.

Most MPs were apologetic and ashamed that they had to keep visiting groups, including pensioners and young children, outside in pouring rain while they waited to go through the security system.

Mr Christopher Chope, Under-Secretary of State, Environment, said that the Cannon Row refurbishment was on target for completion next summer 1989. He had told the contractors that it was of paramount importance that work be completed on time.

Because extra resources had gone into Phase One, they had not made as fast progress on Phase Two but it was not correct to say that no progress had been made. They hoped to appoint the architect before next Easter.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) said that when he first arrived at the House he had to work in the cloisters, a grand name for a subterranean corridor. The conditions there were so terrible that a fire would mean not just a fire-escape, but a mini general election.

Mr Richard Holt (Lang-

## Kinnoch's decision angers left

NEXT WEEK

Labour has decided not to vote against the second reading of the Prevention of Terrorism Bill, which comes before the Commons on Tuesday (Nicholas Wood writes).

Mr Neil Kinnoch, the Labour leader, has instructed his MPs to abstain on the Bill, and in the process has infuriated the left. As with other such orders, front-benchers defying a three-line whip would be sacked.

Labour has departed from its previous posture of outright opposition to similar measures because it supports that part of the Bill aimed at choking off the IRA's financial lifeline.

However, in the wake of the ruling by the European Court, Labour intends to table an amendment rejecting the provision that allows the police to hold terrorist suspects for seven days before bringing charges.

The Court has ruled that suspects must be brought before a court promptly.

Kinnoch's action is intended to show that while Labour is not soft on terrorism, it is not prepared to support measures that it regards as counterproductive.

Northern Ireland will also dominate Monday's business with the second reading of a Bill requiring candidates in local elections in the Province to renounce political violence.

The Water Bill, paving the way to privatization, will come under heavy fire from the Opposition at second reading on Wednesday and Thursday.



colleges

# Head teachers to set up training company

By Douglas Broom  
Education Reporter

Britain's head teachers are so concerned about the quality of training being offered to them that they plan to set up their own management training company.

The National Association of Head Teachers, which represents the majority of state school heads, will announce later this month that it has formed NAHT Management Development Services Ltd.

The company will offer courses, lasting between a few hours and a week, to prepare heads for their new responsibilities under the Education Reform Act.

Mr Michael Pipes, a former NAHT president and head of City of Portsmouth Boys School, yesterday said the training offered by most polytechnics and colleges was "two generations out of date".

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education, has already expressed approval of the company, which is in well with government plans to encourage private enterprise in the training field.

Volunteers have rescued attempts to hold a ballot of parents at Ravensbourne Girls School in Bromley, south-east London, on whether it should opt out of local authority control. The ballot was about to be cancelled because all but three of the 15 members of the governing body announced they would resign if parents voted to opt out. By law the

Last week Mr Baker launched a "task force" to oversee training for school heads. The new company hopes to be among the first to win contracts from it to carry out management training.

The task force, which has already recruited the management talents of Marks & Spencer, is headed by Mr David Styan, a former headmaster and an NAHT member.

In addition preliminary discussions have taken place between the association and universities about running the Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree.

Mr Pipes said bringing modern management tech-

niques into school administration would be "a quantum leap forward in the way schools are run". The quality of training offered to heads by higher education institutions was generally poor.

"Most of the lecturers in their education departments have not worked in a school classroom for 20 years. A lot of them have not even taught in a comprehensive. They may be very good academics but when it comes to the experience side of things they have not got a clue", he said.

The pace of the Government's education reforms, which will make heads respon-

sible for almost all aspects of running their schools, had left traditional teacher trainers "lagging well behind", he said.

However, the new company will have to compete with a growing number of private training organizations including the Industrial Society, which already runs regular courses. A senior association source yesterday said the organization was confident.

"People are not flinching at paying £65 a day for training. We believe there is a big market out there and as the people who are actually doing the job of running schools, we are uniquely placed to do the training", he said.

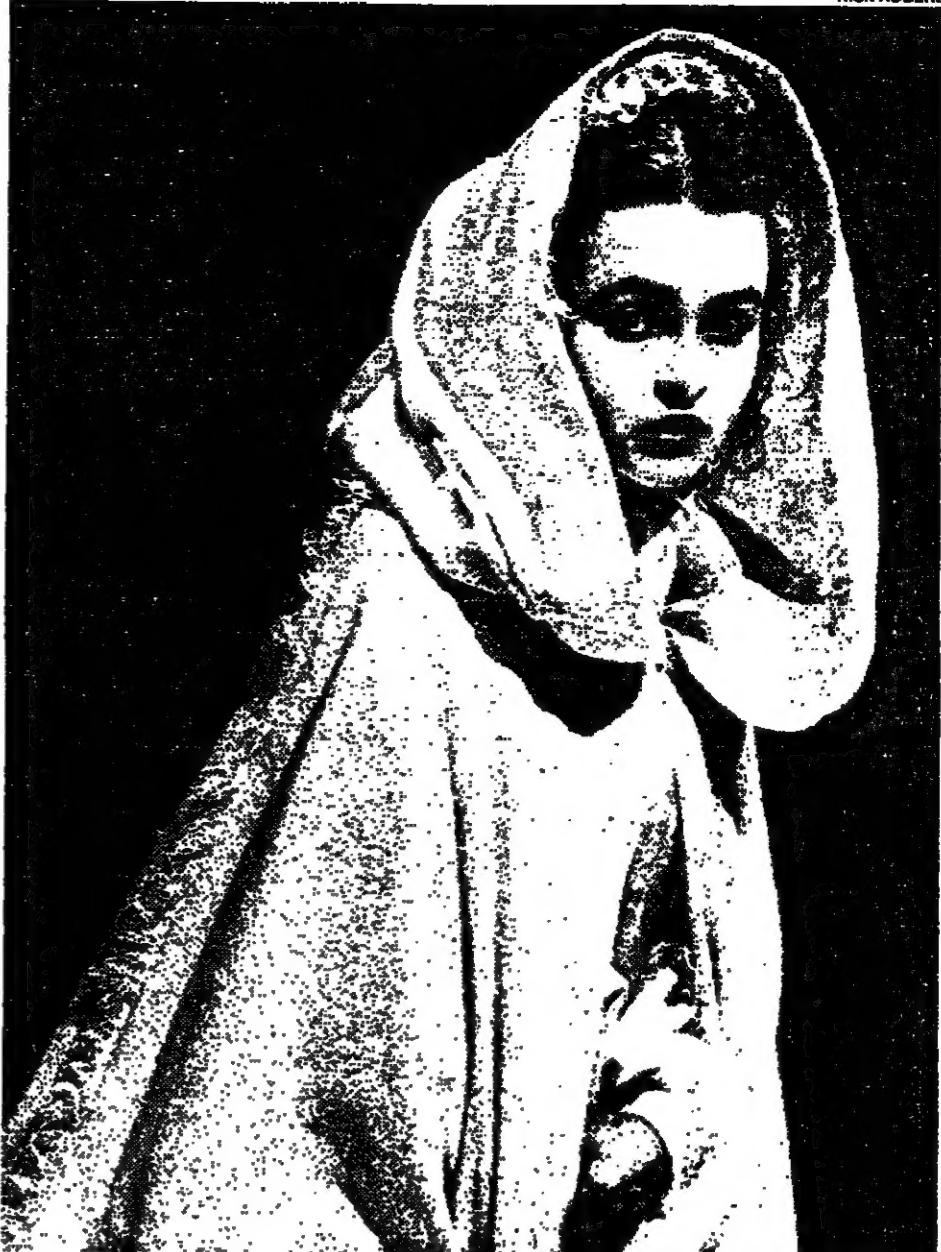
The training which the company will market will include video cassettes and work sheets and will be designed for use by local authorities or individual schools.

It plans to have salesmen travelling around the country and experts who will present lectures and seminars.

"It will be a very professional set up - something that no other teacher organization has ever attempted", the source said.

# White night for actress

NICK ROGERS



By Andrew Billen

Helena Bonham-Carter, the film actress, made her stage debut last night at Greenwich Theatre in an adaptation of *The Woman in White*. The young British actress has taken the title role in *Lady Jane Grey* and appeared with Dirk Bogarde in *The Vision*, a television film, but won most acclaim as Serena in the Merchant-Ivory version of E M Forster's *A Room With a View*. She has just returned from

filming the life story of Francis of Assisi, directed by Liliana Cavani. It is the first classic mystery since his own version in 1971. 11 years after he published the novel, Miss Bonham-Carter's co-star is Jane Gurnett, who is to appear as Anna Brangwen in the new BBC 2 adaptation of *The Rainbow*. The cast for *The Woman in White* also includes Richard Albrecht, Michael Byrne, Barbara Kirby, Alec Linstead and Paul McCleary.

# Scots team attacked in Maltese 'friendly'

Members of a Glasgow under-18 football team were beaten, kicked and pelted with bricks when a "friendly" match in Malta erupted into a riot.

Three players from Parkgrove United needed hospital treatment after they were attacked by players and spectators during a match against Valletta.

Christopher Beattie, aged 18, was taken to hospital with concussion. On his arrival at Heathrow Airport yesterday he said: "We had bricks and bottles thrown at us and one of our players was hit with a child's plastic bike."

"Three of us had to go to hospital afterwards. I had concussion and the other two needed treatment for bruised ribs and an arm injury."

His brother, Richard, aged 21, the assistant trainer on the tour, said: "It was a very bad-tempered match and it all started when one of our players was kicked."

"He turned around to shout and their goalkeeper came out and attacked him."

"Then the crowd came on to the park and all hell broke loose."

The match was abandoned.

# Evans delay

Det Sergeant Phil Thompson, of North Wales police, was expected to return from Lyons yesterday having lodged papers for the extradition of David Evans with the French authorities. The process is expected to take at least another week.

# School fumes

Fifty schoolchildren were taken to hospital yesterday when they were overcome by acid fumes from bitumen work on the roof of the Fred Leggworth High School in Atherton, Greater Manchester, which penetrated their classrooms.

# Passport fraud

Lorraine Merlo, aged 30, an American who forged a passport to try to get Thomas Wisby, a Great Train Robber, out of the United Kingdom, was given a four-month prison sentence, suspended for two years, at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday.

# Body found

Police started a murder inquiry in Whiston, Merseyside, yesterday after the body of Mr Ted Foster, aged 79, a widower, was found by neighbours at his house in Longview Road. He is believed to have been attacked after he disturbed burglars.

# Plymouth college to end political ban

Plymouth's College of Further Education last night appeared set to end its ban on political meetings after governors were told the prohibition could mean the college was breaking the law.

A working party of governors, due to report to the full governing body in February, agreed to draft a code of conduct for meetings of any kind after hearing the ban could be contrary to the free speech provisions of the Education Act, 1986.

Mr Ralph Morrell, chairman of the governors, said that what the meeting had done was to draw up a draft code of conduct, as required by the Education Act, 1986, for any organization which

might wish to use college premises, political or otherwise. This would be put to the full meeting of governors in February and if passed, college premises could be used for legal meetings of any kind, provided those holding them abided by the code.

This recommendation was made after advice from Devon County Council that the ban might be contrary to the spirit and intent of the Act.

Earlier this year students staged a sit-in at the college in protest against the ban. According to Mr Morrell, "sixty students, many of them nothing to do with this college, burst into the then principal's secretary's office and ransacked

it". Mr Guardino Rospigliosi, the new principal, yesterday said the time was right to end the ban, not only because it might be illegal, but because political involvement could broaden the minds of students.

"The experience of managing the administrative and inter-personal challenges of civilized party politics may enable them to mature in the caring environment of the college, so that they are less naively persuadable", Mr Rospigliosi said.

The college has 15,000 students, about 10,000 of them part-time. Mr Morrell had said the unruly sit-in had led to companies withdrawing students.

# Parents' anger at drowning

The parents of a boy drowned in a speedboat tragedy said after an inquest yesterday that their son could have been saved if a lifeboat had been launched earlier.

Mr Tony Davis and his wife, Lesley, were speaking after Dr David Bruce, the Mid Cornwall coroner, recorded accidental death verdicts on their son Edmund, aged 14, and his friend, Bernard Butler, aged 19.

Bernard's brother, Kevin, aged 14, survived in freezing seas for five hours after the 15ft, 90hp speedboat - described by the coroner as unseaworthy - sank off Looe after its engine failed to restart

during a joyride on April 5. After the verdict at Liskeard, Mrs Davis, of Lower Market Street, Looe, said: "My son suffered hours in the sea. He could have been saved if the lifeboat had been called out earlier."

"Human errors have been made in this case. I would hope they won't be repeated." Her husband, Tony, said: "If this could happen with the present coastguard strength, what's it going to be like if they cut the service further?"

The coroner was told by a Department of Transport nautical surveyor that the speedboat was not fit to go to sea. He said Mr Bob Butler, a

coal merchant of Watgate, near Looe and father of the brothers, bought it in good faith and it was reasonable for him not to have known of its instability.

The coroner said that "standard unequivocal phrases" should be enforced in conversations between coastguards and lifeboat launching authorities.

He said that proper reserve buoyancy standards should be laid down for all boats - and he would take up the issue with the Department of Transport.

He also emphasized the need for proper safety equipment to be carried.

# Two newspapers fined for contempt

Two newspapers were fined a total of £52,000 yesterday for contempt of court over front page articles on a shooting in Scotland.

The High Court in Edinburgh held that the articles suggested a man arrested was guilty of the crime and were in breach of the Contempt of Court Act 1981, which bans publication of material which could pose a substantial risk of serious prejudice in forthcoming trials.

The *Sun* and Mr Jack Irvine, its Scottish editor, admitted contempt. News Group Newspapers, publishers of *The Sun*, was fined £20,000, and a fine of £3,000 was imposed on Mr Irvine.

The *Scottish Daily Express* denied contempt. Its counsel argued that the article did not identify anyone and did not pose a substantial risk of serious prejudice. Its publishers, Scottish Ex-

press Newspapers, were fined £30,000. Mr Andy Lines and Mr Derek Stewart-Brown, two journalists on *The Sun*, were absolved, after the court was told they bore no responsibility for what had ultimately appeared in the paper. Mr George Birrell and Mr Graham Paterson, two journalists on the *Scottish Daily Express*, both based in Scotland, were similarly absolved.

Lord Emslie, Lord Justice-General of Scotland, said it was clear that *The Sun* published the article only after "long and anguished consideration" and having taken advice from experienced counsel. The court was told that the *Scottish Daily Express* published after taking legal advice in Manchester.

Lord Emslie said: "We don't know what attitude the English courts would take if a similar publication had been

made about a similar arrested person in England.

"It is perhaps unfortunate, since our system so much depends on the absence of pre-trial publicity, that advice about publication could be given ultimately not by a Scottish lawyer but by an English one."

Lord Emslie said it was evident that the *Express's* system for legal vetting had been deficient.

"We are concerned with the Scottish system of criminal justice and we have already said what one of its cardinal virtues is. That must be protected."

"Therefore those who give advice about what may imperil that system of fair trial should give that advice in the full knowledge of the Scottish system and the attitude of the court towards its protection."

# Britain lags in disaster plans

By Tony Dawe

Britain's failure to prepare national plans for future disasters, whether natural or man-made, was underlined yesterday when an international conference in London was told of detailed arrangements in the rest of Europe.

Signor Fulvio Paolini, the European Commission Coordinator for Civil Protection, said that other member states had established national plans to cope with emergencies so that resources could be deployed quickly and effectively.

He also disclosed plans for linking national data bases so resources can be made available across frontiers; Britain lacks any central system for collating such information.

Organizers of the Emer-

gency '88 Congress disclosed yesterday that Whitehall had tried to discourage them from inviting Signor Paolini because of the contrast he was bound to draw between Britain and the rest of Europe.

Mr Eric Alley, the conference chairman, said: "The Home Office did not want Signor Paolini to address the conference but since the EEC has provided us with far more help than the British Government we insisted on inviting him."

In the event, senior Home Office officials attended the conference and met Signor Paolini after his address.

He told the conference that the Community programme to fight disasters "accord fully with the spirit of a people's

Europe". They are intended to increase the safety of the population while encouraging its active participation", he said.

"Any initiative in this area is bound to contribute to the development of a sense of belonging to a community, having regard to the creation of a Europe without frontiers and the large single market of 1992."

As well as linking national data banks, the Commission is working to establish a single telephone number for the public to call in an emergency.

In winding up the conference, Mr Alley spoke of the "lack of political will" and the need to "fill a vacuum in disaster planning" in the United Kingdom.

# Norfolk Broads to be given protected status

By John Young

On April 1 next year the Norfolk Broads becomes, in all but name, Britain's eleventh national park, the first area to be given such protection since the designation of the Brecon Beacons in 1953.

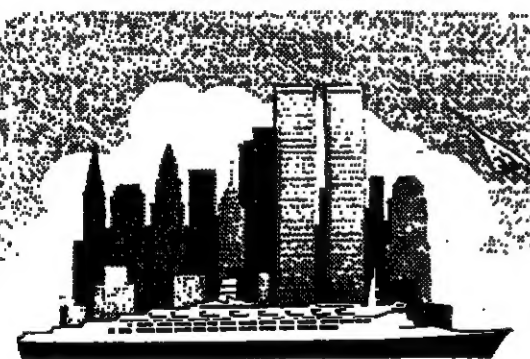
But there is a feeling in some quarters that the East Anglian flatlands do not belong in quite the same category as the wild hills of, say, the Lake District and Snowdonia. They may be, well, a trifle down market.

In an attempt to raise the public image of the broads, the Countryside Commission, the English and East Anglian

Tourist Boards and Blakes and Hoesous, the two largest boat hire companies, are promoting a campaign to encourage what the commission calls green tourism.

"It has been said that what the broads need is not fewer visitors but more discerning ones", Mr David Phillips, the English Tourist Board's assistant director, said. "We want visitors who sympathize and understand that this is an idyllic natural habitat, where a visit is rewarded with peace and tranquillity and an intimate contact with a delicate landscape and shy wildlife."

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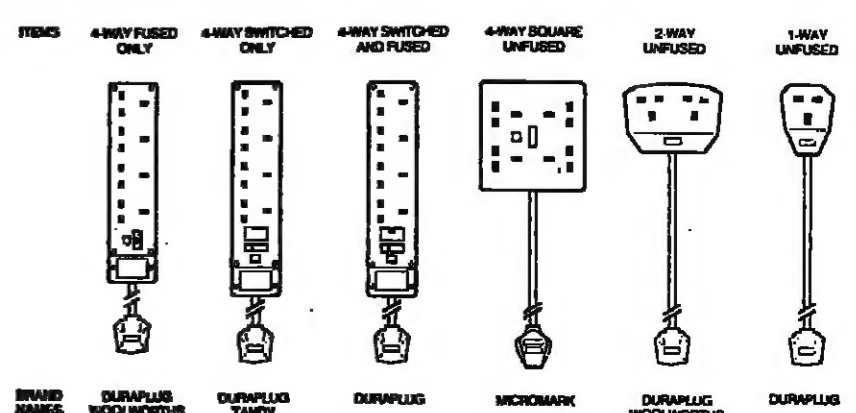
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## WORLD ROUNDUP

## Sudan talks aim to end civil war

Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi, the Sudanese Prime Minister, is to meet his long-standing enemy, Colonel John Garang, the leader of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army, at a conference attended by all of Sudan's parties (Nicholas Beeson writes). They will try to work out a new constitution to end more than five years of civil war.

According to the Sudanese leader's wife, Sara, the conference is expected to take place in Sudan, Cairo or Addis Ababa on about December 31. The move towards a peace settlement comes after the announcement in Khartoum on Thursday that Sudan's Cabinet has approved a peace pact signed last month between Colonel Garang and Mr Mohamed Osman el-Mirghani, who leads the co-ruling National Democratic Unionist Party.

Speaking at a press conference in London, Mrs al-Mahdi said that Sudan's leaders would concentrate on the key issue of restructuring the country's legal system. The rebels, mainly Christians and animists from the south, have been fighting against the imposition of Islamic laws by the northern Muslim population.

## Envoy's son arrested

New York — Mr Nigel Sevan Soobiah, aged 40, son of the Mauritian High Commissioner in London, has been arrested in an international police round-up of suspected Mafia drug smugglers (James Bone writes).

Mr Sevan Soobiah, son of Mr Soobiah, who has been High Commissioner since January, was arrested in Buffalo in New York state on Wednesday as police in America and Italy moved to crack a Sicilian-based drugs trafficking ring. Arrest warrants were issued for about 200 people in eight EU cities as well as in Palermo, Bologna and Florence.

## Miyazawa defiant

Tokyo (AFP) — Mr Kiichi Miyazawa, the Japanese Finance Minister, yesterday again corrected previous remarks about his role in a stock trading scandal, but he denied reports that he might resign.

He told a parliamentary committee on tax affairs that his former secretary, Mr Tsunao Hattori, bought 10,000 shares in a real estate firm, Recruit Cosmos, in Mr Miyazawa's name some time before September 30, 1986. Mr Miyazawa, answering a Communist deputy, was correcting an earlier statement that the aide bought the shares on the date itself.

## India plans to phase out ageing MiGs

Delhi (AFP) — India is planning to phase out the Soviet-designed MiG21 jet fighter, the backbone of its Air Force, by 1992, newspapers said here yesterday, citing a senior defence officer.

The Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal S. K. Mehra, was quoted as saying that the Air Force was in favour of developing an indigenous light combat aircraft to replace the ageing MiGs, first commissioned 25 years ago. He said that the Air Force was extending full support to the manufacturing programme begun five years ago.

The daily *Tribune* quoted Air Chief Marshal Mehra as saying that the MiG21s, some manufactured in India under licence from the Soviet Union, had been involved in an increasing number of accidents for technical reasons.

## Bali outrigger completes

## Australia trip

Darwin (AFP) — An Indonesian *jukung* arrived in the capital of Australia's Northern Territory yesterday, the first of a fleet of nine small outrigger boats which set out from Bali seven weeks ago.

A spokesman for the Great Jukung Race Expedition said that the Indonesian-crewed vessel was already on the beach with seven others in sight. The nine-nation fleet, including a British entry, left Bali on October 17 on a 1,000-mile island-hopping voyage through eastern Indonesia to northern Australia.

The expedition was organized to demonstrate that *jukung* — made from six-yard dug-out trees with two outriggers and a small sail — could have carried adventurers from South-East Asia to Australia thousands of years before its European discoverers.

## Rhodes summit reassesses policy in Gorbachov era

## West wary despite thaw in Moscow

From Richard Owen Rhodes

Western leaders at the European Community summit in Rhodes yesterday agreed to cement improving links with Eastern Europe, and moved towards European backing for a Nato summit early next summer at which President-elect George Bush could meet leaders of the Western alliance to forge a united policy in response to President Gorbachov's leadership.

"It is high time for a reappraisal," one German diplomat said after a meeting on the issue between Mrs Thatcher and Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany. "We must examine the dramatic changes in Moscow, while not allowing ourselves to be wrongfooted by

Gorbachov in either trade or arms control."

Mrs Thatcher was given assessments of President Gorbachov's leadership by Chancellor Kohl and President Mitterrand, both recent visitors to the Soviet Union.

British officials said West Germany, Italy and other EEC countries were "backing away" from the idea of an aid package for Eastern Europe to bolster the economic reform process and encourage political freedoms.

Mrs Thatcher told the French and German leaders that trade credits should be extended to the Russians on "normal trading terms."

British officials said they had noted "waning enthusiasm" on the part of other EEC countries for a

Soviet proposal for a human rights conference in Moscow in 1991.

On arms control, officials said Bonn was moving towards acceptance of Britain's demand for a timetable on the modernization of short-range nuclear forces in Europe.

The summit leaders drew up a draft declaration welcoming the readiness of East European countries to develop relations with the EEC "against the background of improved East-West relations."

The declaration laid down the EEC's determination to overcome the division of Europe and "to promote Western values and the Western concept of security." It also urged progress on human rights in the Soviet bloc, more open societies

in Eastern Europe and cuts in conventional forces.

Officials said the Nato summit could take place in London next June, upgrading a planned meeting of Nato foreign ministers.

In yesterday's debates EEC leaders agreed on the need to avoid a "Fortress Europe" when internal barriers fall in 1992 and to keep the EEC "open to the world."

But there was disagreement over how far internal frontier controls could be dismantled in 1992, with Germany and other countries pressing for complete abolition as laid down in the Single European Act.

After bilateral talks between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Ruud Lubbers, the Dutch Prime Minister, British sources said The Netherlands was

sympathetic to Mrs Thatcher's view that "at least some" frontier checks must be retained to deter terrorists, drug pushers and other criminals. Britain sought a "balance of advantage" between free movement and border controls, Mrs Thatcher said.

The summit agreed to speed up the passing into law of internal market directives, but left the contentious issue of monetary union and a European central bank for the next summit in Madrid.

On the equally contentious issue of harmonization of workers' rights in an era of cross-border competition, Mrs Thatcher insisted that "social issues" must not detract from the main business of completing the internal market programme on time.

## Bombings add to pressures on Papandreou

From Mario Modiano, Rhodes

Four bomb blasts in Athens early yesterday came as a timely reminder of the plague of terrorism for the European leaders gathered here for the summit meeting.

But to Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister, they were the echo of the explosive domestic situation he will have to cope with once he gets over chairing the European meeting.

A radical group, calling itself the Revolutionary Popular Struggle, claimed responsibility for three blasts, which caused damage but no casualties in the European Community office, a branch of the European Investment Bank, and a government-operated institute of management and information. A fourth explosion wrecked the car of an Athens newspaper editor.

The group, in a proclamation sent to Greek newspapers, attacked the Rhodes meeting as a confirmation of the Community's "capitalist-imperialist dominance" over Greece, and called for revolutionary change in the country to eliminate both the scandals that have been shaking the nation and the political system that produced them.

A combination of poor health, a conspicuous love affair and serious allegations of corruption against his Government has undermined Mr Papandreou's prestige at a time when, as chairman in Rhodes, he needed it most.

Even an attempt to boost morale by staging a noisy

welcome by party supporters on his arrival here, with banners hailing "the President of Europe" strung across the route from the airport, eventually backfired.

The public flaunting of his mistress, Mrs Dimitra Liani, a blonde airline stewardess, has prompted ironical, and now more often outraged, comment throughout Greece.

The feeling that the Rhodes meeting has simply deferred catalytic political developments that might herald the end of Mr Papandreou's meteoric career was illustrated cruelly in a newspaper cartoon showing the Prime Minister telling Mrs Liani, as they sit on the deck of a sinking yacht: "Dearest, I have this awful premonition..."

Mr Papandreou, aged 69, looked shaken and tired when, accompanied by a very healthy looking Mrs Liani, he visited the hi-tech press centre set up by the Greek presidency at the refurbished Hotel Desroses.

He later set off for the medieval palace of the Knights of St John to host a luncheon for the European leaders before their opening meeting.

The British Prime Minister has been briefed discreetly on the fact that Mr Papandreou's illness has made him emotionally dependent on his companion, so that her presence at some functions of the usually sober and business-like summit sessions should not be ruled out, Mrs Thatcher



promised to keep her cool.

Mr Papandreou, recovering from a serious heart operation, is also escorted by his personal cardiologist and a mobile cardiac unit is always close at hand. His European colleagues have promised to keep the usual summit acrimony to a bare minimum to spare him any ordeal.

But contingency arrangements have been made discreetly with Spain, which succeeds Greece in the rotating presidency on January 1, to be ready to take over in Rhodes if the need arises. Mr Karolos Papoulias, the Greek Foreign Minister, paid a locally unpublicized visit to Madrid last weekend.

● New paper: Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, yesterday launched his new newspaper, *The European*, which is planned to go on sale throughout the EEC from next May, against the backdrop of Rhodes harbour.

Soldiers patrolling the streets of Rhodes yesterday as EEC leaders met for their summit, after bombers hit four targets in Athens, including a newspaper editor's car (below).



## Kremlin rethink on rights conference

By Michael Evans Defence Correspondent

A senior Soviet official confirmed yesterday that the Kremlin was not insisting on Western agreement for a human rights summit in Moscow during 1991 as a precondition for signing an important accord in Vienna that would lead to critical conventional arms control negotiations.

The statement in Vienna by Mr Yuri Kashlev, the chief Soviet delegate to the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), gave added weight to the remarks made by Mrs Thatcher after she met President Mitterrand of France this week, when she said that Moscow no longer appeared to be linking the human rights proposal to the Vienna accord.

The Soviet change of mind is significant because the conference on security, which has to agree a procedural mandate for new talks on reducing conventional forces in Europe, has been stalled over human rights and other issues, including Moscow's insistence on hosting a key human rights forum.

Western diplomatic sources said confirmation that the conference proposal from Moscow was no longer a Soviet precondition would help to unblock the logjam at the CSCE talks.

It is now hoped that the CSCE, which consists of Nato and Warsaw Pact countries as well as non-aligned states, will sign an accord early in January, possibly before Mr George Bush, the US President-elect, takes over in the White House on January 20.

This means that the new Conventional Stability Talks, which will involve just Nato and the Warsaw Pact, could get under way early next year.

Mr Kashlev insisted yesterday that Moscow had not shelved its plan to be host for a human rights conference. The proposal was still on the table, and it was not going to be withdrawn.

But he said that Western agreement was not a condition for a final accord to be reached at the European security conference.

## Unrest in the Soviet Union

## 'Martial law' in Azerbaijan

By Mary Dejevsky

As the number of Armenians fleeing Azerbaijan mounts, details are emerging of the scale of the unrest they are leaving behind. Several areas of Azerbaijan, including the capital, Baku, appear to be subject to a form of martial law — which is being widely disregarded.

Baku is administered by Colonel-General Tyagov, whose office issues reports on the situation there three times a day. Military checkpoints have been set up on all roads into the city, and unauthorized traffic — apparently all private cars — is not allowed in or out.

Non-residents are barred from entering Baku, on the grounds that outsiders have been spreading "lies" to exacerbate the situation.

The city has been divided into military districts, each under its own commander. A curfew was introduced on November 25, yet General Tyagov complained that about 700 people had been detained on each of the next few nights. Weapons, includ-

ing knives and guns, had been confiscated. There were also reports of sabotage at mines in the region.

Carefully avoiding the words "strike" and "boycott", Moscow television has reported that students in Baku are not attending lectures, and workers are not at their workplaces, preferring to attend mass meetings in the city's squares. Special arrangements have been made for food distribution and the organization of the city's financial operations on military lines.

Communications have been placed under the command of Major-General Pyodorov as a result of the "refusal" of postal workers to operate the post and telegraph services. Military command posts have been set up in the central post office, the railway station, the central telegraph office and the telephone exchange.

Illustrating the popular passions that have been aroused, Azerbaijan's allocation of *Izvestia*, amounting to 134,000 copies, is being flown in from Moscow. Print-

workers in Baku had refused to print it, the newspaper reported, because they regarded its reporting of events in the city as unsatisfactory.

Baku's main railway link with Nakhichevan in the south of the republic — an area where there have been killings and disturbances in the past week — has been cut, apparently because the railway line runs through a small section of Armenia, which has apparently refused to let trains pass. The trains have had to be replaced by special flights four times a day.

Yerevan radio reports of the situation in Stepanakert, capital of Nagorno-Karabakh — the territory at the centre of the dispute between Armenia and Azerbaijan — say that the city is under tight military control, with troops patrolling the streets to prevent demonstrations.

One report said that an attempt to arrest a member of the Nagorno-Karabakh Committee had led to armed clashes between troops and civilians.

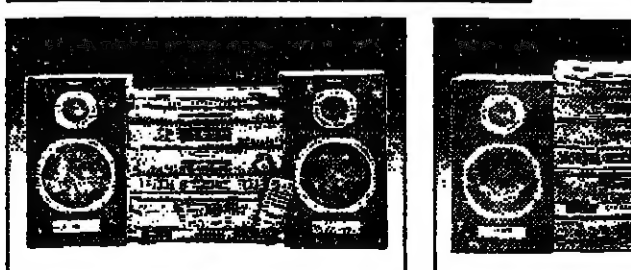
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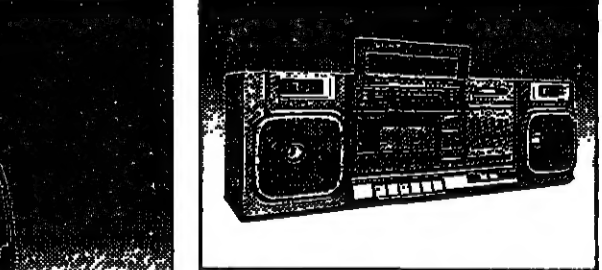
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## Pakistan power battle

# Bhutto dons father's crown while rival rules Punjab

From Anatoli Lieven, Islamabad

Miss Benazir Bhutto was sworn in as Prime Minister of Pakistan yesterday at the presidential palace here, following in her father's footsteps and the first woman elected to govern a Muslim nation.

The ceremony came after a poignant reading by a Muslim cleric who declared: "Those who have been patient with their lot, be they man or woman, they will surely be rewarded." As she entered the palace with President Isiah Khan, wearing Islamic green and a pure white headscarf, Miss Bhutto smiled at Begum Nusrat Bhutto, her mother, and Asif, her husband. Otherwise, her face was solemn as she read the oath.

For Miss Bhutto, it is a station on what has been a very hard road, including prison, psychological torment, and the deaths of both her father and brother.

As the guests awaited her appearance, news came that her main rival, Mr Nawaz Sharif, the Chief Minister of Punjab, had confirmed his position with a majority of 151 seats out of 257 in the provincial assembly. But Miss Bhutto's Pakistan People's

Party looks set to form the government in the smaller North-West Frontier Province, in alliance with the local Awami National Party.

In Baluchistan, where national politics count for little and tribal politics for much, a coalition is possible between the PPP and the Islamic Democratic Alliance.

An alliance member of the National Assembly remarked: "For the first time in Pakistan, we have the chance to prove that an opposition province can exist without the national Government undermining it, humiliating it, and cutting off its money."

But the PPP will be tempted to use central power and patronage in order to destroy the alliance in Punjab.

The alliance is trying to defend itself by mobilizing Punjab sentiment against the PPP, accusing its leaders of being "Sindhi nationalists".

However, there does seem to be a mood of Punjab resentment towards Sind, which may have played a part in the alliance victory in the provincial assembly elections on November 19. Even as civilized a politician as Mrs

Abida Hussain has now begun to talk of the need to reflect such Punjab feeling.

She seems likely to emerge as leader of the opposition in Parliament. The other main candidate, Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain, has declared that as a public speaker he does not feel up to the job, and Mrs Hussain would be the better candidate.

Leader of the parliamentary opposition in Pakistan is not quite as important as it sounds. Mr Sharif's present position — so long as he can keep it — means that he will remain by far the most important figure in the alliance.

However, Mrs Hussain may well make a formidable opponent for Miss Bhutto in Parliament. As a woman, she can afford to be less restrained in her attacks, and Mrs Hussain is noted less for restraint than for a quick mind and a sharp tongue.

The position of these two women underlines the acute class division in Pakistani politics and culture. Both are Western-educated liberal aristocrats who have fought to their present positions partly by inheritance but also by

intelligence and courage. Both opposed General Zia's Islamization policy. Both are, however, in their different ways, in thrall to the traditional values of the mass of the population.

Mrs Hussain's alliance has shed much of its Islamic character since the elections. Nonetheless, religion is bound to be used as a weapon by any opposition to Miss Bhutto's generally secular-minded government. Miss Bhutto for her part, is unlikely formally to reverse General Zia's two Islamization decrees.

As she prepares to form her Government, Miss Bhutto is already faced with her first small foreign policy crisis: the Indian arrest and expulsion of the Pakistani military attaché, and Pakistan's retaliatory expulsion of Indian diplomats. There is a rumour here — which even if not true, shows PPP fears — that this whole business was engineered by the Pakistani intelligence service to undermine improvement in Indo-Pakistani relations.

Miss Bhutto clearly hopes for such an improvement, despite the pressure from the military establishment.

## Botha releases black editor but with harshest restrictions so far

Johannesburg (AP) — Prominent anti-apartheid activist and journalist, Mr Zwelakhe Sisulu, who had been detained without charge for two years, was released yesterday but placed under severe restrictions.

Mr Sisulu, editor of the *New Nation* newspaper, is barred from working on the publication, cannot leave the Johannesburg area, must report to police twice a day and is required to be in his Soweto township home at night, Ms Priscilla Jana, his lawyer, said.

He is also banned from participating in any activity critical of the Government, cannot be in the presence of more than 10 people, is barred from going to any school and cannot give media interviews, she added.

"This is the harshest (restriction) order so far under the emergency regulations," Ms Jana told a news conference. "It seems he can do virtually nothing. He is imprisoned in his own house."

Mr Sisulu, who was released from Diepkloof prison in Soweto, attended the news conference but did not speak in order not to violate the restrictions.

"The Government is trying to fool the international community that has so loudly called for the release of Zwelakhe Sisulu," said a fellow-activist, Mr Mohammed Valli-Moosa.

The Law and Order Ministry said several other detainees were to be released yesterday, but did not say how many or who they were.

Mr Sisulu, aged 37, has been held without charge since December, 1986, under state of emergency regulations. His parents also are among the country's best-known activists. His father is the jailed African National Congress leader, Walter Sisulu, a close colleague of Nelson Mandela.

● **Paper returns:** The *Weekly Mail*, South Africa's leading left-wing newspaper, was back on the streets yesterday at the end of a four-week government ban.

"We're back. We're still strong. And we're ready to carry on fighting," the paper said in a front-page editorial.

● **Urban blast:** A limpet mine exploded yesterday outside the offices of the Receiver of Revenue in Boksburg, the East Rand town where petty apartheid is being introduced (Ray Kennedy writes).

It caused no injuries but did considerable damage to property. Mr Philip Price, the Receiver, said: "Although I know the taxman is never popular, I think they targeted the wrong place. We are a government department and

operate outside of the Conservative Party policy in Boksburg."

The extreme right-wing Conservative Party won control of the council in last month's municipal elections and has decreed that blacks will be barred from council-owned facilities and forbidden from trading in the town centre. Its moves are being emulated in other towns where the Conservatives have won control.

The party's headquarters has issued instructions to more than 90 local



Mr Zwelakhe Sisulu leaving Diepkloof prison yesterday with his lawyer.

authorities to reintroduce segregated facilities wherever possible.

Dr Andries Treurnicht, the party leader, is scheduled to address a public meeting in Boksburg next Thursday.

A black consumer boycott of white-owned businesses went into action in Boksburg this week. Some shops reported a 40 per cent drop in business. Boksburg has a white population of 86,000, outnumbered nearly three to one by blacks and mixed-race Coloureds who live in adjoining, segregated townships.

The Afrikaans newspaper *Beeld* quoted a Boksburg businessman as saying: "I voted for the Conservative Party but I did not know they would act so drastically. My business will go under if it continues."

Yesterday afternoon Coloureds and blacks flocked to the artificial lake in the centre of the town in defiance of the council's edict that its picnic, barbecue and recreational facilities are reserved for whites only.

● **Peace snags:** Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, and General Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister, flew to Brazzaville in the Congo Republic early yesterday after serious last-minute snags arose in the peace talks between Angola, Cuba and South Africa (Ray Kennedy writes).

They were due to go there today to sign a formal protocol on a Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola and the implementation of United Nations-supervised independence in Namibia.

Mr Botha compared the search for peace in the region with drilling for water. "At this stage we've hit solid rock," he said. General Malan said in Windhoek, the capital of Namibia, where their aircraft stopped, "this is the time when the pitfalls start to appear."

General Malan gave no details of what has gone wrong, but it is believed they are serious enough to jeopardize months of negotiations in which the United States has acted as mediator and which began in London in April.

It was reported here yesterday that soldiers and supporters of Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebel movement in Angola were crossing in large numbers into the Caprivi Strip area of Namibia.

The Johannesburg *Weekly Mail* newspaper — back on the streets yesterday after being banned by the Government for a month — said it appeared to be a strategic ploy to pre-empt the arrival of the United Nations peace-keeping force, Unatag.

Dr Andre Du Pisani, a specialist on Namibian/Angolan affairs with the South African Institute of International Affairs, described the Unita factor as potentially the greatest threat to ending conflict in the area, rather than the dispute over verification of the withdrawal over a 27-month period of an estimated 50,000 Cuban troops.

Mr Neil Van Heerden, the South African Director-General of Foreign Affairs, flew to Brazzaville with senior officials on Wednesday in an attempt to iron out difficulties over the verification issue. It appeared, until Mr Botha's and General Malan's hurried flight yesterday, that enough progress had been made to clear the way for the signing of the protocol.

This would include a firm date — possibly January 15 — for the signing of a final peace accord between the three countries. It would be preceded by negotiations with Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, over the deployment of Unatag.

## Girl bomber who killed 115



Kim Yon Hui waiting yesterday at the Seoul District Prosecutor's office to be interrogated about her confession that she blew up a South Korean airliner a year ago.

In January Miss Kim, aged 26, said on television that she planted bombs on November 29 last year on board a Korean Air Lines Boeing 707 which exploded in mid-air a few hours later near the Burmese coast, killing all 115 aboard.

Miss Kim, better known as "Mayumi" after the name shown on the false Japanese passport she was carrying when she was arrested, has been in the custody of the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP), the powerful intelligence organization. She arrived at the prosecutor's office amid heavy security.

Wearing an oversized white-and-black tracksuit top over dark slacks, she posed briefly for cameras, keeping her head bowed. She was not handcuffed and once or twice brushed back her long hair.

After about 10 seconds, she was led into the building by two women NSP agents. Reporters were barred from following her in, and she did not respond to their questions.

Prosecution sources said Miss Kim was likely to be formally indicted later this month. The Government once considered not prosecuting her because it regarded her as just a "puppet" of the Communist leadership in Pyongyang.

Miss Kim could be hanged if found guilty of mass murder, but the Government would probably pardon her and use her case for anti-communist propaganda purposes.

Miss Kim told South Korean television she had received orders to destroy the plane directly from North Korean leaders, with the aim of scaring countries away from the Seoul Olympics.

## UK warns allies against Gaddafi

By Nicholas Beeston

With Libya still supporting terrorism, Britain — backed by the United States — is warning its European allies not to be taken in by Colonel Gaddafi's bid to ingratiate himself with the West.

British fears emerged after this week's visit to Rome by the Libyan — second-in-command, Major Abdel Jalloud, who met senior Italian officials, including Signor Ciriaco De Mita, the Prime Minister. Italy afterwards announced it would "enlarge and intensify contacts with Libya".

Major Jalloud said on Thursday that Libya was trying to interest Italy in a 15 to 20-year commercial agreement worth £17 million to £22 million which would provide for development projects. Libya particularly wants to establish a large petrochemical market in Europe.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, the Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, who was in Rome during the Libyan visit, registered Britain's concern about Libya with her opposite number, Signor Gianni Manzolini, in

particular mentioning the use of Libyan-supplied weapons by terrorist groups in Northern Ireland and Belgium.

After Bonn's recent appointment of a new ambassador to Tripoli, the Foreign Office is also concerned that West Germany may be prepared to improve relations with Libya. The previous envoy was withdrawn in 1986 in protest over the Berlin discotheque bombing.

"We use whatever opportunity we can to make our views known to our partners," a Foreign Office source said. "Our view is that Gaddafi has not changed his spots."

He added that Britain had also been approached indirectly by individuals claiming to represent Colonel Gaddafi and seeking to improve relations.

But there is almost no chance of normalizing ties given the history of Anglo-Libyan relations which includes the killing of WPC Yvonne Fletcher by a Libyan diplomat in London and use of US bases in Britain for the raid on Tripoli.

## Clues to sabotage in train accident

Cuzco (AP) — Peruvian police are investigating whether a rail crash in the Andes which injured the mayors of Jersey City and Cuzco and killed their wives was caused by saboteurs who supported a national strike.

Transport and police spokesmen said that steel rods were found near the site where the railway wagon, taking the dignitaries to visit the Inca citadel of Machu Picchu, careened off the tracks and plunged down a ravine.

The officials said the likely target was a passenger service, running behind the tourist train which was making an unscheduled trip.

## Fleet returns

Suez (AP) — A British naval task force of six ships, including the destroyer Edinburgh on which Prince Andrew serves, steamed towards home through the Suez Canal from a Far Eastern mission marked by anti-nuclear protests.

## Briton appeals

Huelva (Reuters) — A Spanish judge sentenced Dave Enver, the British shipper of the Greenpeace boat *Sirius*, to a month's imprisonment for ignoring a ban and collecting seawater for pollution checks, but the term was suspended pending appeal.

## Leader quits

Bonn — Herr Bernhard Vogel, the Christian Democrat Prime Minister of Rheinland-Palatinate in West Germany, has resigned the post after his failure last month to be re-elected state party chairman.

## Mine attacked

Melbourne (AP) — Villagers in Papua New Guinea sabotaged power supplies to the Bougainville copper mine, one of the world's biggest, stopping production, officials alleged.

## Strike grows

Paris (Reuters) — A strike by transport workers that seriously hit commuter services all week spread, with five unions joining action to press for higher pay and 55 per cent of bus services not running.

## Ban on Prince

Bonn — West Germany has refused entry to Prince Reza Pahlavi, son of the late Shah of Iran, who planned to speak to 6,000 Iranian exiles in Cologne tomorrow.

## Flights off

Delhi (AFP) — State-run Indian Airlines cancelled four flights scheduled to leave Bombay after pilots refused to fly without ground navigational aids, the Press Trust of India reported.

## Police plaudit

Peking (Reuters) — Police in northern China praised a group of more than 20 citizens who fatally clubbed a mugger after capturing him red-handed, the official *Legal Daily* said.

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Mr Winkler: Believed held by Abu Nidal gunmen.

## Beirut kidnap victim

## Swiss hostage in plea for his life

From Juan Carlos Guncuio, Beirut

Mr Peter Winkler, the Swiss volunteer of the International Red Cross abducted in southern Lebanon last month, yesterday appealed to his Government to meet the demands of his captors as the only way to save his life.

The appeal was made in a brief handwritten note sent to a Western news agency in west Beirut. The letter indicated that the kidnappers are offering to exchange him with Mr Hussein Hariri, a Shia Muslim Lebanese imprisoned in Switzerland for the hijacking of an Air Afrique jetliner in 1987.

"I am here for more than two weeks now," wrote Mr Winkler. "And maybe I will stay here for long time. I was kidnapped not as a Red Cross delegate but as a Swiss citizen. My Government knows what my kidnappers want from it and it has to co-operate in order to save my life."

In Bern, Swiss officials said the letter was authentic and the kidnapping appeared to be related to the arrest of Mr Hariri, who is also charged with the death of one passenger.

His trial was scheduled to

start in November, but has been postponed to allow further psychiatric examination.

Mr Winkler was seized by gunmen on November 17. No group has claimed responsibility, but it is widely believed that the kidnapping was carried out by Abu Nidal's Fatah Revolutionary Council on behalf of pro-Iranian Shia extremists.

The ICRC, which has withdrawn all its Swiss employees from Sidon, has hinted it may suspend operations in southern Lebanon if Mr Winkler is not freed soon.

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## Loyal soldiers ring army base seized by Argentine rebels

From Michael Llanos, Buenos Aires

Loyal troops of the Argentine Army, backed by tanks and heavy artillery, yesterday surrounded an important army base occupied by rebel officers and Coast Guard commandos who on Thursday abandoned their barracks in the second military rebellion this year.

President Alfonsín, who left for Mexico and the United States on Wednesday, refused to change his schedule, but ordered the rebellion put down "as soon as possible".

Vice-President Victor Martínez, who is running the country until Señor Alfonsín's return today, had a meeting with the commanders of the three armed forces yesterday to discuss strategy.

By mid-morning the rebels had mounted a heavy machinegun at the gate of the Army Infantry School at Campo de Mayo, Argentina's largest military base, just outside the capital. Several young officers in combat uniform, their faces blackened, patrolled the grounds.

Meanwhile, the Army Chief of Staff, General Dante Caridi, ordered the loyal troops to the site. By noon five tanks were in position, their gun barrels pointing at the school's main building. Infantrymen sur-

rounded the grounds and an army helicopter kept watch.

By early afternoon reinforcements, including heavy artillery, had arrived at the school. General Isidro Cáceres was put in charge of dislodging the rebels.

Government officials confirmed the rebels were under the command of Colonel Mohammed Ali Seineldin, a Falklands War veteran said to have supported the failed mutiny of Easter, 1987, led by Colonel Aldo Rico, a friend of Colonel Seineldin now awaiting a court-martial.

Colonel Seineldin was recently passed over for promotion and not given a new posting for next year — a sign that he would soon be retired. Currently posted to Panama to instruct that country's defence forces, he returned to Argentina on Wednesday, according to a rebel spokesman identifying himself as Lieutenant-Colonel Olivera.

The spokesman said that some of the Coast Guard commandos who abandoned their barracks on Thursday had taken refuge in the school.

Some 50 Coast Guard commandos of the 170-man Albatros unit, four of them officers, rebelled on Thursday,

driving off in three lorries with 200 army rifles and 100,000 rounds of ammunition.

A young officer guarding the school entrance said the rebellion was to protest against the Army's decision to pass Colonel Seineldin over for promotion. Colonel Olivera, however, was deliberately vague, saying only that the action was "due to the internal crisis affecting the Army".

But Senator Juan Berhongaray, the chairman of the Senate's defence commission, described the incident as an attempted coup.

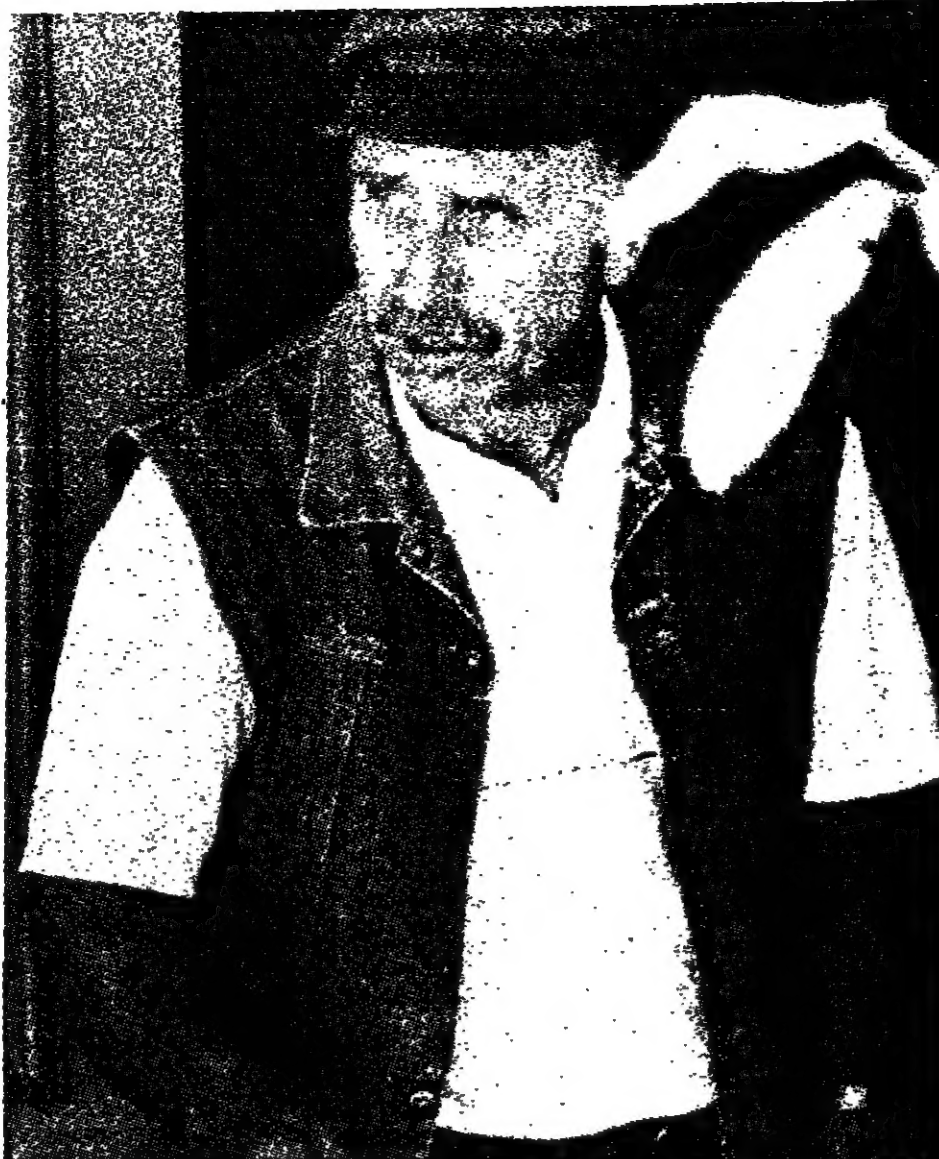
Other government leaders linked the rebellion both to that of Easter, 1987, and that of last January. The infantry school was also the site of the 1987 mutiny led by Colonel Rico.

Government sources said "two or three officers" and some other units had tried to join the rebellion on Thursday, but no other incidents were reported yesterday.

Military judges have begun investigating the actions of these officers, one of them the son of former military President Jorge Videla, who is serving a life sentence for human rights violations in the 1970s "dirty war".

## Australia expels Yugoslavs over shooting

From Christopher Morris, Sydney



The Daily Telegraph of Sydney yesterday published this picture on its front page, said to be of Mr Matijas Zoran, the Yugoslav security guard who is at the centre of the diplomatic row.

Australia last night closed the Yugoslav Consulate in Sydney and declared the entire staff *persona non grata* after Belgrade rejected a demand for the handing over of a security guard who allegedly shot and wounded a schoolboy five days ago during a protest.

Canberra had set a 24-hour deadline for the surrender of the guard, Mr Matijas Zoran, who has been hiding in the building since last Sunday when he is alleged to have fired the shot from inside the grounds that seriously wounded José Tacka, aged 15.

For the past three days, the consulate has been under siege by police with a warrant for his arrest. The Yugoslavs were given an ultimatum to hand over the guard by 6pm local time yesterday or the consulate would be closed and all the staff expelled.

Throughout the day, there were behind-the-scenes negotiations between Canberra, Sydney and Belgrade, but the Yugoslav Government refused to back down and Australia was determined to show no weakness. As the deadline passed Senator Gareth Evans, the Foreign Minister, an-

nounced Australia's threat had been carried out.

Yugoslavia was adamant the security guard would not be handed over, but said that no retaliatory action would be taken against Australian diplomats in Belgrade. But retaliation against Australia's trade is expected to be a consequence of the Government's stand. Last year Australian companies exported goods totalling almost \$A100 million (\$47 million) to Yugoslavia, more than double the trade in the other direction.

An immediate effect of the consulate shutdown was distress for many Yugoslavs trying to get visas to leave Australia to spend Christmas at home. There were emotional scenes outside the building as they pleaded for visas but were told to apply at the Yugoslav Embassy in Canberra, more than 100 miles away.

New South Wales police yesterday had prepared plans to try to seize the security guard during the half-hour journey to the airport. But international law requires the Australian authorities to give the Yugoslavs safe passage from the consulate.

## Sir Joh admits he did not tackle vice

Sydney — Exactly a year after being forced to resign as Premier of Queensland, Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen yesterday gave testimony in an attempt to salvage his political reputation, tarnished by allegations of large-scale corruption during his 19 years in office (Christopher Morris writes).

Sir Joh, aged 77, was making his long-awaited appearance before a royal commission in Brisbane, where he declared he never dreamed corruption existed, and that he had never accepted a bribe.

Sir Joh did admit, however, that he let allegations of police corruption "wither on the vine" because he did not know which senior police officers he could trust.

He said he had heard allegations of corruption from two policemen who met him in Brisbane hotel rooms. The allegations concerned police protection for prostitution and betting activities to which five police officers have since confessed.

But Sir Joh said the Queensland Police Commissioner, Sir

Terence Lewis, now suspended, had assured him the allegations were untrue.

"I didn't know who to believe and what was what," he said. "I let the whole matter wither on the vine. The whole episode seemed to be such a tangled web involving women and so forth that I could never make head or tail of the whole thing."

Sir Joh repeatedly told the inquiry he believed that a minister or a premier had to trust his chief officers' integrity and their advice.

"If you are not prepared to take the advice of your top officers, then who do you go to?" he asked.

He admitted that in hindsight he had not paid as much attention to prostitution in Queensland as he should have.

Questioning of Sir Joh so far has focused mainly on Sir Terence's appointment.

Sir Joh is expected to be giving evidence until the end of next week, when the inquiry, which started in January, is expected to end.

## Miss Egypt contest rouses fundamentalist passions

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

The American organizers of Miss Egypt, the only beauty contest in the Muslim Arab world, are throwing down the gauntlet to Islamic fundamentalists and preparing to advertise openly in the Cairo press for the 1989 show, to be known coyly as "The Best Girl in Egypt Contest".

Revived in 1986 after being abandoned in the early 1960s under heavy religious pressure, it has been publicized discreetly by word of mouth in social clubs. Even this has not prevented bomb threats and rumours in the universities that contestants would have acid thrown in their faces.

As a gesture to reduce public feeling in a country where an increasing number of young women

are wearing the veil, the chief organizer, Miss Marie Frances, a US television producer, has banned men from judging the section where the girls parade in swimsuits. "We now stage that in a private suite with only women judges," she said.

Miss Frances, who said she was invited to restart the contest by the Ministry of Tourism, anxious to dissociate Egypt's image from more extreme Islamic countries like Iran, has just received permission from the Government to advertise openly for contestants in *al-Ahram*, the main Egyptian daily.

"The Ministry of Tourism are behind this move. They were surprised how popular the contest proved and how much it has done to improve Egypt's image abroad," explained Miss Frances, who has arranged for the finalists to parade

in evening gowns and cocktail dresses in front of a mixed jury in the Nile Hilton Hotel in Cairo.

News that the contest is going to be promoted publicly (albeit under a suitably modest name) has already aroused anger among spokesmen for the Muslim Brotherhood, the most tolerant of the Egypt-based Islamic groupings, which has members in Parliament in the opposition coalition.

"I believe the mass of the people will rebuff this deliberate provocation," said Mr Adel Hussein, editor of *al-Shaab*, the coalition's newspaper. "It will not be only the mosque that will fight against it, but the Christian church as well. Ninety-nine per cent of our people are against Egyptian women competing like this."

Miss Gamela Ismail, a young

Egyptian journalist who covered the heavily guarded 1988 finals, said: "The fact it is being advertised in advance means there will be great resistance to it."

Miss Ismail added: "To minimize the risks of protests from Islamic extremists, the organizers this year tried to compromise. Participants were advised not to walk in a provocative way or to wear low-cut dresses — but not all of them followed the advice."

The sensitivity of the contest was apparent from the start in 1986 when many girls walked out on hearing they would have to parade past male judges in their swimsuits. Those remaining had to be taken by bus to a venue at a private villa 50 miles outside Cairo to reduce the risk of disruption.

"The great majority of those

taking part are Muslims, not (Christian) Coptic Egyptians as many people imagine," Miss Frances said. "They are just girls who can see nothing wrong in such an event and are excited by the prospects of foreign travel it opens up." Winners here are eligible to take part in the Miss World, Miss Universe and Miss Wonderland contests.

Miss Frances appears unruffled by the prospect of militant Islamic opposition to her latest venture.

"As an American, I am used to facing up to people with opposing opinions. On this occasion, I am not worried at all," she said. "After the recent scandal involving the Islamic investment companies in Egypt, I feel that public support for the ideas of the fundamentalists is much less strong than it was when we started out two years ago."

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## NUCLEAR ELECTRICITY

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# TIMES DIARY

SIMON BARNES

This is the column that never forgets old friends. Loyal readers will recall Westfield of the Danair Combined Counties League (the Eddie Edwards of football) and their deadly local rivals, Chobham. Well, I hope you are reading this sitting down because last Saturday Westfield won a point, their first of the season. They now need only one more to equal their record of last season, when they drew two of their 34 matches, losing the rest. Westfield got their precious point against mighty Ash United last week, lifting them from the bottom of the table. There, enmured, lie Chobham, who have lost all 13 matches. In the Danair Combined Counties League, they keep the big games for the big days: Westfield play Chobham on Christmas Eve. Watch this space.

The most interesting four-ball of the season was played at Sunningdale golf course this week. The participants were Mike Gating, John Embury, Chris Cowdrey and Graham Gooch, England's cricket captains in this, the year of the four leaders. I rang Captain Gatt to ask who won. "A state secret," he said.

The last male bastion but one in English cricket is about to fall. After 124 years, all signs point to the admission of women into the pavilion at Old Trafford. The issue comes to a vote a week today, and there is a good chance that the required two-thirds majority will be obtained. Chris Hassell, the Lancashire secretary, hopes for a "yes" vote because the present ban "causes all sorts of problems when we are trying to encourage families to play cricket." There will be opposition: one member remarked obscurely that with women in the pavilion "it would be like a rugby scrum." And Lord's? "We see no reason to change."

I received a telephone call from Alex Smith, son of Ian Smith, of Rhodesia, who is promoting a match that will effectively decide the football world championship. Smith is concerned about the famine in Mozambique and the world's failure to appreciate the scale of the disaster caused by weather and warfare, with estimates of up to five million facing starvation. He is raising funds by putting on a match in Harare on January 15 between PSV Eindhoven, the European champions, and the South American cup winners, Racing Club of Argentina. Smith is overjoyed at their generosity and hopes for further sponsorship.

## BARRY FANTONI



"Amanda and I are breaking up — it's the only way we can afford our higher mortgage repayments"

A book with the working title *The Wisden Guide to First Class Cricket Grounds* is under way. It will be packed with information about Britain's 60 first-class grounds — how to get there, ground plans, and so on — and, of course, loads of statistics: the records scored by the relevant county on that ground, the records scored against the home county, and so on. Every first-class county has been able to produce full lists of statistics — with one exception. This exception has all its own scores intact, but so far there are serious gaps in records set against it. And the county? You have guessed it, Yorkshire.

More statistics: yes, I can prove by figures that the reason Glamorgan always lose is not because they are no good, but because they are trapped in the insipid dampness of Wales. Home matches on the east Glamorgan grounds of Cardiff and Abergavenny had 127 hours scheduled, and 19 hours 24 minutes lost to rain. But in West Glamorgan, at Swansea and Neath, of 101.5 hours scheduled, 51.26 were lost. Away, they lost a mere 16 hours of play. Perhaps true champions lie on the dry side of Britain.

It's a hard life, being the first Soviet player in Italian football. Alexander Zavarov of Juventus, formerly with the great Dinamo Kiev side, has just been suspended after being sent off. The club's acting president, Gianni Boniperti, said: "It would be too embarrassing to fine him — he earns so little." Most of what he earns goes to the Soviet Sports Federation. "What will they say about me back home?" Zavarov wonders. "I was only ever sent off there once." To make things more difficult, he was asked by a pretty girl if he would mind standing beside her for a souvenir photograph. The picture later appeared in a magazine with a caption alleging romantic involvement. Perhaps Zavarov is coming to terms with the West: he is suing.

Remember the underwater backstroke? It has just been declared illegal by the international swimming organization, FINA. Invented by David Berkoff, who set three world records with the technique, it involves kicking off and disappearing for the first two-thirds of a length, dolphin-kicking your way down the pool. You emerge, breathe, repeat the performance on the turn then race in the normal way: that, at any rate, is how Daiichi Suzuki, of Japan, won the 100-metre backstroke gold at the Seoul Olympics. Improper and possibly dangerous, FINA has now ruled, though Berkoff's 34.5 second world record still stands.

## James Prior puts the Ryan extradition affair in perspective

# Ulster: no turning back

The row over the extradition of Father Ryan this week has provided a typical example of what makes it so difficult to avoid misunderstandings and inadvertently to aid the terrorists' propaganda war in Northern Ireland.

Time and again in Ulster, when all appears quiet and one begins to hope there is a chance that people will start talking together, some ghastly tragedy or inexplicable event will provide the heady atmosphere, colloquially called the oxygen, so loved by extremists on both sides, which pushes people back into their traditional tribal adversarial roles.

The sensitivities of the Irish as seen through the eyes and ears of Dublin are not appreciated in London. For us the problems of the island of Ireland appear relatively minor. They are a perpetual nuisance which we wish would go away. But that is not how it looks from Dublin. People there see every comment in Parliament, through Downing Street or the media, as big insensitive Britain, breathing down their neck, still dictating to them as in the days of British imperial rule.

Whereas the vast majority of Irish politicians and people are well disposed towards us, are equally aghast at terrorism and determined to deal with it effectively, they cannot always restrain their volatile and fiery temperaments when attacked by London. And of course those who really hate us — and a number do — rejoice in the nourishment we supply to their propaganda campaign.

Conversely, in our eyes, for Dublin to allow terrorists to disappear into the Irish mists is bound to generate anger and exasperation. Nearly everyone in Britain would agree with, or at least understand, Mrs Thatcher's reaction.

Difficult as these events make it, I hope Mrs Thatcher will stick to the courageous policy she embarked on some three years ago with the Hillsborough An-

gle- Irish Agreement. I hope she will not listen to the sincere but siren voice of MPs like Ian Gow. The purpose of the agreement has not changed. It was to build confidence in the nationalist community of the North. Not only would there be no discrimination but there would be seen to be none in the operation of the law, whether in the courts, the work of the police and security forces, or in matters such as employment and housing.

In the short term the guarantee would be provided by joint discussions between officials of the two governments. But the long-term goal was the active participation by nationalists in the government and administration of Northern Ireland. Once the nationalists felt secure in their legitimate interests they would cooperate fully in helping

to defeat the IRA. The Republic, for its part, would improve security arrangements with the North and would also make extradition of offenders easier.

How has it worked? Not very well, must be the verdict so far. There has been an improvement in cooperation on security but this has been offset by the determination of extremists in both communities to disrupt at all costs. So any benefit is not reflected in the figures of violence.

Politically there has been no advance. Despite the obviously enhanced position of the nationalist community, it has responded only lukewarmly to political involvement with the Unionists. I would have hoped the nationalists could have done more given that even Mr Haughey, the Republic's prime minister, has had to go along

with the agreement. After all, they were given a new degree of advantage and credibility which the Unionists bitterly resented and were denied themselves.

The Unionists could obviate what they consider to be interference by a foreign power in their internal affairs by accepting some form of devolved government. No one should doubt that Mrs Thatcher is a convinced Unionist but I am certain she would support some devolution and that she hoped this would be part of the outcome of the agreement.

Many Unionists, although angry about the way the agreement was engineered, recognize that it will not go away and, that, however provoked and frustrated Mrs Thatcher may be by present events, she will stick by it. For Mr Haughey the agreement has proved too popular to

rescind and I doubt if he would want to be seen as the saviour of Mr Ian Paisley's prejudices.

We must not allow the events of the last few days and a torrid summer to deflect us from the policy followed since the signing of the agreement three years ago. The plight of the province remains very serious. Able young people continue to leave. Older people are saddened but inured to the state of affairs they have valiantly lived with so long. We must not allow such an overwhelming majority of decent people to be defeated or held to ransom by a combination of murder and historical prejudice.

Each crisis makes the eventual solution more difficult but in frustrations shared in Dublin and London we should all remember that the only people to gain from a break-up are those who have no interest in peace and no wish to see the island — North or South — flourish. I hope that in Rhodes this week-end harsh words will be tempered by that knowledge.

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Lord Prior, now chairman of GEC, was Northern Ireland Secretary from 1981 to 1984.

## Marcus Binney

# Preying on the churches

The speed and suddenness with which the Mappa Mundi has been whisked to Sotheby's has provoked an outcry on a scale the chairman of Sotheby's clearly never anticipated. It may even be withdrawn from sale next week, much to the disappointment of the salerooms.

For the controversy has spotlighted the unceasing attempts of the salerooms to boost their turnover by pricing treasures from the settings for which they were created or designed. Having plundered treasures from the country houses, they are now turning their attention to the wealth in churches and cathedrals, and to the fittings which form an integral part of most historic houses.

More recently the parish of St Margaret Louthbury in the City of London was refused permission to sell a fine bust of Sir Peter Le Maire by the sculptor Hubert Le Sueur, which had been brought into the church when the adjoining St Christopher-Le Stocks had been demolished. In this case the chancellor of the diocese rejected the application because the parish had failed to demonstrate any pressing need.

Unfortunately he did agree to the sale of the fine Rysbrack bust of James Gibbs, the architect of St Martin-in-the-Fields, beside the National Gallery, which had been given to the church in 1885 by William Moore, an antique dealer and silver merchant in the Strand.



raising funds.

So far churches and cathedrals have put up considerable resistance to the depredations of the salerooms, but the pressure on them is unlikely to diminish. And as the value of their treasures increases, the pressure to sell grows stronger. This is also true of the fittings of country houses, the other major area which the salerooms are consistently seeking to break into.

Fittings which are an integral part of the house ought to be protected by listed building controls. Some years ago no less a figure than the editor of *The Times* was refused permission to sell a painting in the overmantel above the chimneypiece at Ston Easton, on the grounds that it was just as much a fixture as panelling or a doorway. But unfortunately local authorities often fail to enforce the law in such cases.

overmantel mirror made for the house in 1857, an elaborate built-in fender and a sundial were sold illegally.

With sculpture the position is far less clear, even when the statues are an integral part of a decorative scheme. The main feature of the gallery at Farnborough Hall in Warwickshire was a splendid series of Grand Tour busts. The principal statue of Lucius Verus was a valuable antique but even though it was hooked and bedded in the wall the local authority felt it could not take enforcement action. So the National Trust, which owned the house, was forced to buy them at very considerable expense.

At least a third of the loans to recent major exhibitions of Romanesque and Gothic art have come from cathedrals, exciting the interest of salerooms and dealers in treasures which have lain forgotten in cathedral libraries for years.

The contents of churches cannot be sold without permission from the chancellor of the diocese, the ecclesiastical equivalent of a high court judge. Cathedrals are free of any such outside control, but under the new Care of Cathedrals Measure now going through Synod they will have to seek permission to sell any object of artistic interest.

Boore had the worthy sentiment that all those who came to admire the church should have the opportunity of seeing a likeness of the man who designed it. But the chancellor took the view that it was a "house" bust and gave permission for it to be offered for sale to a select group of national museums. It has now been acquired by the V&A for £465,000 — a hefty price for a work of art already given to a major church for safekeeping and public exhibition.

Five years ago permission was sought to sell it to raise funds for the church's restoration but the application was not approved. However, following the re-ordering of the church around the new Henry Moore altar-piece, (commissioned by Peter Palumbo) there is no sign of West's painting.

With church plate, the position has been far less happy. Sotheby's sold the fine communion silver from St Martin-in-the-Fields for £57,000 in 1970, a sum which seems modest today.

The sale was allowed because funds were needed for repairs.

Some protection is provided by the classic judgement on the flagons from St Gregory Tredington in Warwickshire, which the vicar and churchwardens decided to sell when confronted with the need to raise substantial sums for emergency repairs to the tower and spire. The church's appeal court, the Court of Arches, ruled that such sales should be allowed only when there was a genuine crisis and there was no other means of

At Earlsall Castle in Fife, a few years ago, Christie's were able to sell overmantel pictures and tapestries in fixed frames. These had been installed by Lorrimer when he restored the house in the 1890s and were sold with it when it changed hands between the wars.

When Sotheby's auctioned the contents of Tynningham in Lothian a year ago two big rococo overmantels in the drawing room — part of the original decorative scheme — were sold, leaving a nasty gap on the wall. The tragedy is that the room retains its very fine 1830 wallpaper, but this has been in effect condemned unless matching rococo mirrors are made to replace the ones which have been sold.

Garden sculpture is often mentioned specifically in DoE lists, and indeed may be individually listed. When Hever Castle in Kent was put up for sale it was evident there was no way of keeping the contents with the house, even though it attracted large numbers of visitors every year. But no less important was Hever's wonderful Edwardian garden, designed round a large collection of antique and Renaissance statuary and architectural fragments. Thanks to prompt action by Sevenoaks council the larger part of this remarkable ensemble remains intact.

In Somerset Mendip District Council has issued a summons to be heard next February following a big Christie's country house sale, at Orchardly. The council alleges that a large

English Heritage is now looking for a case where it can test the legislation on fixtures in the courts. Until the 1950s many items such as sculpture and overmantels would have been deemed to be fixtures, and not being regarded as of particular value, would have been included in a sale. Now that we have won more effective control over the demolition of listed buildings, the interiors of houses are being stripped of furniture, paintings and sculpture which are an integral part of major decorative schemes. It is absurd that practice varies so much from one local authority to another. Clearer guidelines are urgently needed from the Department of the Environment and ministers.

Both secular and religious treasures are vulnerable to their growing value coupled with the mounting cost of maintaining old buildings. They need decisive action from the Government on the one hand and Synod on the other. Otherwise sales which begin as a trickle will turn into a flood.

The author is president of SAVE Britain's Heritage.

## Commentary • MICHAEL KINSLEY

# At home with Uncle

Washington

What's Canada? That is the question millions of Americans, as usual, were not asking in recent weeks as Canadians fought a bitter election campaign over the fate of a free trade agreement with the United States. But at least some have felt guilty about it. Now that Canadians have implicitly approved the agreement by re-electing Brian Mulroney and his Progressive Conservatives, we Americans can put all thoughts of Canada aside, as usual, without guilt.

But should we? I think not. Canada needs us. Indeed it may be that in briefly threatening to reject this obviously sensible treaty, Canada was simply trying to draw attention to itself. The entire election was a cry for help.

It was the conceit of the treaty's opponents that free trade is a nefarious US plot to swallow Canada in our embrace and turn it into a 51st state. It was the conceit of the treaty's supporters that this was the last thing any Canadian would wish. In reality, there cannot be 100 Americans with the slightest desire to make Canada the 51st state.

psychological torment. They combine a deep, professed disdain for south-of-the-border culture — our crime, our squalor, our imperial bravado, our skeletal social welfare system — with an even deeper need for approval from Americans. They write letters to the editor of American publications at the slightest hint of a slight. They are notorious for their inability to take a joke.

Clearly they are all torn up inside. They desperately want love but are unable to supply it in return.

There is only one cure for this complex neurosis. We must give Canadians what they secretly want. We must embrace them, adopt them, love them, annex them. In short, we must make Canada the 51st state. Or, perhaps, the 51st, 52nd, 53rd and 54th states, depending on the best arrangement of stars in the revised American flag.

I hear some of my fellow citizens saying: "Not so fast, Buster." Why should we share our flag — the very symbol over which dozens of political consultants fought valiantly in our own recent election — with 25 million foreigners? Don't we have millions of humiliated neurotics of our own, in desperate need of teasing, who won't get the attention they deserve if our society is suddenly overwhelmed by Canadians? "Love thy neighbour" is an admirable injunction, but Americans, selfish beasts that we are, naturally are going to wonder, "What's in this for us?"

Although it never occurred to me that Canada should become the 51st state until Canadians began insisting hysterically, and unconvincedly, that they don't want to be one, now that they have brought it up I can see that such an arrangement would have many advantages for the United States as well. Indeed, the idea of annexing Canada could appeal to Americans across the political spectrum:

- Woolly left-wing one-worlders should appreciate the erasure of any international border, no matter how faint or porous it is already. We are all fellow passengers on spaceship earth, are we not? The merging of the US and Canada would be a great spur to conferences, proclamations, and suchlike activities celebrating the irrelevance of nationalism in the post-industrial age. Oh goody.
- White American racists ought to relish the prospect of a vast infusion of Anglo-Saxon stock into the American melting pot. True, there is Quebec, and Toronto has become alarmingly multi-ethnic in recent years. However, most Canadians are still of British descent and have relatively ancient roots in North American soil. In an era when Mexico seems to be annexing itself to the United States, a person at a time, through immigration, and people with names like Dukakis are actually running for president, a merger with Canada would add millions of citizens with sturdy names like Mulroney and Turner, who

## DEC 3 ON THIS DAY 1883

What, at first sight, appeared a run-of-the-mill report closes with the words which are still at the heart of every struggle for freedom throughout the world.

## AMERICA [THE CIVIL WAR]

... Reports from Moultrie asserted that on the previous day one of the Monitors had her funnel and turret perforated by the Confederate shots. On the 17th four Monitors passed up the channel, but as they did not participate in the firing it was believed that they were sounding to ascertain if there was passage for vessels of a certain draught.

The bombardment of Sumter continued: 25 shells were thrown into the city from Gregg, doing no serious damage. One of the Federal guns burst at the last discharge. Indications of more extensive operations on the part of the Federals were apparent.

Advices from New Orleans of the 14th report the occupation, without opposition, of Buirville and Point Isabel, in Texas, by General Banks.

A chaplain of a Federal regiment who was taken prisoner at Morris Island, but released on Wednesday last, relates that several Confederate officers admitted to him that the accounts of the sufferings of the Federal prisoners at Richmond from exposure and scanty feeding which have recently appeared in the Northern journals are not exaggerated. The crops in the Confederacy are abundant; but, owing to the extreme difficulty of transportation, only an insufficient quantity of food

reaches Richmond; the Confederate soldiers being of necessity first supplied, little is left for the 13,000 prisoners in and around the city. On some days it has been found impossible to serve more than one piece of unspiced cornmeal bread to each prisoner. It is now reported that the objection of the Confederate authorities to forward supplies from the Northern States for the Federal prisoners at Richmond arose from the use of the word "commissaries," instead of "commissaries," in the request for their transportation. The error has been rectified, and one of the prisoners writes that 48,000 rations have been received and distributed among them.

The consecration of the Gettysburg battle-field as a national cemetery took place on Thursday. President Lincoln, Mr Seward, the Hon Edward Everett, and Governor Seymour were present. Mr Lincoln delivered the dedicatory address, in which he said:

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men were created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether the nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure. We are met upon a great battlefield of that war. We are met to dedicate a portion of it as the final resting place of those who here gave their lives that the nation might live, and to resolve that the dead shall not have died in vain — that the nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom, and that the government of the people by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."





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## OXYGEN OF POLITICS

*Political reform is a kind of oxygen necessary for the vital activity of the public organism. Its objective is, through greater democracy in every area of life, to blend the interests of the individual with the interests of the collective and of society as a whole.*

Mikhail Gorbachev, November 29, 1988. The torrent of Western-style news that has issued from the Soviet Union in recent weeks — ethnic clashes in the southern republics, an Armenian refugee problem of epic proportions, public calls for sovereignty from the Baltic republic of Estonia and yesterday an airline hijacking — has distracted attention from a development which fits more comfortably into the traditional Soviet pattern. The Supreme Soviet has, on a show of hands and by a huge majority, agreed amendments to the small print of the country's Constitution.

Lacking the immediate appeal of news made by events, the constitutional changes may none the less prove the more durable. They were envisaged as the first stage in Mr Gorbachev's programme of political reform. He introduced them, to a perplexed audience, at the 19th Communist Party conference in June; they became the subject of frequently heated discussion when they were published in October; they will now — with a few emendations — help to shape Mr Gorbachev's political system.

The difficulty lies in assessing how different his political system will be from the one he inherited. It is not just that the Soviet leader's ideas have developed since he took office, his original emphasis on economic reform giving way to recognition of the need for political reform.

Nor is it that the ambitious plans outlined in June lost some of their excitement when expressed in the legalistic language of the Constitution. That was inevitable.

The chief difficulty does not proceed even from the divergent interpretations of the constitutional changes made by Moscow and some of the constituent Soviet republics. The Baltic republics dared to make their objections forcefully and in public. That also could have been expected.

The question of whether Mr Gorbachev wants federalism for the Soviet Union, and of what sort, is not to be answered yet. Although small concessions have been made this week to the dissenting republics, the Soviet leader insists that relations between Moscow and the

Union republics are to be thoroughly re-examined next year. There is time, until then, for discussion and lobbying. The nature of Soviet federalism has not yet been finalized.

Some clauses have, however, assumed their final form. Those relating to the electoral system and the new organs of government need to be examined closely.

Real progress has been made in the stipulation that more than one candidate should contest each seat, in the limitation of tenure for government and Communist Party officials, and in the limits to the number of official posts an individual can hold at once. Mr Gorbachev's own statement that decisions made by the new-style executive President will be subject to veto from the new-style Supreme Soviet is also welcome, both as a recognition of the awesome power such a president would otherwise hold, and as an indication of how Mr Gorbachev might use that power himself.

But a statement of intention is not the same as having constitutional safeguards against its abuse. The absence of such safeguards and the complexity of the new electoral system give rise to great doubts about how different Mr Gorbachev's political system will be.

While every individual will have a vote and a choice of candidates in elections to a new Congress of People's Deputies, the one-man, one-vote principle is severely distorted. Each recognized "public organization" — including the official trade unions, women's committees and, most significant, the Communist Party — will have its own guaranteed number of congress deputies, elected from within that organization. A Communist Party member will thus have two votes, a party member who is also a trade union member could have three, and so on.

Even with its representation thus weighted, the Congress of People's Deputies will not function as a directly elected parliament. It will meet for only a short time each year to elect a new Supreme Soviet, permitting any awkward non-conformists to be weeded out if necessary.

Only in the latter stages did the fundamental question of a directly elected parliament and the equally fundamental principle of one-man, one-vote impinge on the discussion of the constitutional amendments. The lack of such basic components of democracy illustrates the gap between Mr Gorbachev's "democratization" and democracy. Aspiring Soviet democrats still have many battles to fight.

## HORN OF WAR

In recent days *The Times* has published a series of graphic articles on the desolate lands of the Horn of Africa. For 27 years this has been a battlefield in which Eritreans have pitted themselves against Ethiopia in a bitter war for independence.

The reports have described the commitment and remarkable organisational skills by which the massively outnumbered Eritreans have forced the largest army in Africa onto the defensive, meanwhile constructing, against the heaviest of odds, many of the civil institutions of a functioning state. Neither side, it seems, can win the war. But a political solution will be difficult to achieve.

The fighting compounds the region's vulnerability to drought and famine. Its victims, direct and indirect, now figure in the millions. Many of them, even within the opposing armies, are children. The Ethiopians are using napalm.

Just as the origins of the Eritrean conflict are intimately linked to the geopolitics of the Horn — both Eritrea and Ethiopia claim sovereignty over strategic Red Sea ports — its continuation threatens regional stability. It is difficult to envisage a resolution to the civil wars in Sudan and Somalia without peace in Eritrea.

The Soviet Union's role is critical, because it arms the 300,000-strong Ethiopian army, the largest in Africa. This gives it leverage with the stubborn Marxist dictatorship of Haile Mengistu Mariam, with whose Stalinist domestic policies and refusal to contemplate a peaceful settlement of the Eritrean conflict the Kremlin is beginning to weary.

When Mr Mikhail Gorbachev addresses the United Nations next Tuesday he is likely to reiterate the Soviet Union's newly found commitment to the peaceful settlement of Third World conflicts. Western governments should make clear that they regard this war as a test of this new, positive, Soviet diplomacy.

The West cannot, however, simply dismiss this conflict as the Soviet Union's problem. It is unfashionable to look back to old colonial rivalries; but it was the British who, in the 1880s, encouraged Italy to establish a colony in Eritrea as a counterweight to French influence in the Horn.

The British administered the territory in the

1940s. Britain was co-author with the US of the plan which the UN General Assembly adopted in 1950. This gave Eritrea full autonomy within an Ethiopian federation. But when Ethiopia annexed Eritrea 12 years later, in violation of the UN settlement, there was silence.

The Eritreans, who had accepted the UN settlement in the belief that it provided international guarantees, have been fighting ever since, this time with the goal of full independence. Ethiopia received aid and arms from the US until 1977, when it dramatically switched alliances: since then the USSR has poured in more than \$2 billion in weapons and military aid.

Last month the secretary-general of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, Mr Issayas Afewerki, made his first visit to Britain, the US, and other Western European countries, seeking support for a negotiated settlement. At first glance, he would appear to have gone to the wrong addresses: the West's influence with the Ethiopian government is minimal. In Britain, he was addressing a Government firmly committed to Ethiopia's territorial integrity.

Mr Afewerki's realism should, however, command respect, and action. While he insists on the Eritreans' right to self-determination, he emphasises that the Ethiopians are "brothers" with whom Eritreans could again cooperate. He is looking for super-power guarantees.

Ethiopia has so far offered only regional autonomy in northern Eritrea. This is far short of a workable compromise, although it would be unrealistic to expect Ethiopia to abandon sovereignty over, at least, the southern tip of Eritrea which includes the port of Assab, its lifeline to the sea.

The best-placed mediator is Italy. It is held in remarkable affection in Ethiopia, despite the atrocities of its occupation in the 1930s, and should be accepted as broker by the EPLF. Mr Gorbachev's visit to the UN provides an opportunity for Italy-Soviet consultations. Italy is the current president of the UN Security Council. It is the right moment to reopen the dossier, on the basis of the UN-imposed federation of 1950 — the nearest Eritreans can realistically expect to come to independence.

## COOKING FOR BEGINNERS

Archaeological excavation of a site in southern Africa has yielded evidence that Man began cooking 1.5m years ago. While the study gives no indication of when Woman took over, it largely confirms recent social observations.

Although it is only in recent times that Man's atavistic instincts have returned, the extent to which this has happened is very great. After an absence of nearly 1,500 millennia, the male has returned to his habitat in the kitchen.

Throughout the caves of modern suburbia on Saturday nights, Homo Sapiens may be seen bent over an open-fired cooker, one eye on the grill, the other blinded with tears from peeling onions. He is clothed in a striped butcher's apron (his wife's present last Christmas) or a green-and-gold job from Harrods' haberdashery.

A casual glance through the pages of *Who's Who* will endorse the thesis that cooking is now Metropolitan Man's most practised hobby, after reading and walking. Masters of households who might once have dreamed of spending their weekends with Charlotte Rampling or Sophia Loren, now do so with Katie Stewart, Delia Smith or Madhur Jaffrey.

It is now Working Woman (Homo Sapiensess) who, after a 10-hour day in one of central London's monstrous cubicles, reaches gladly for the tin-opener or microwave. On the other hand, her mate (Redundant Man) has already stalked the Indian grocers of Tufnell Park on the hunt for fresh coriander or wild mushrooms.

It is she who turns gladly to *nouvelle cuisine*, that aggressively masculine art of plain cooking. It is he who takes pride in his béarnaise sauce or the texture of his personal sherry trifle. In that excellent BBC-2 programme, *Food and Wine*, it is Man who does the cooking but Woman who expectorates the wine.

The ingredients have changed slightly down the years. Those ancient cooks, according to the bones they left behind, used zebra, warthog, antelope and baboon — all discouraged now in the interests of conservation. They would require some deceptive marinades to make for successful Hampstead dinner parties. But horsemeat, pork and venison are roughly analogous to the first three. Baboon was no doubt very good for a Man's teeth.

## Call for calm in Ryan case

From Senator John Robb  
Sir, If the British people could appreciate the potential of Irish friendship, the British political establishment might be less inclined to change into imperial high gear whenever Ireland is confronted by legal challenge with the most serious political implications.

Before the bitter legacy of Anglo-Irish history and Irish sectarianism the issue of extradition of Irish people to Britain and to a lesser extent to Northern Ireland calls for highly-tuned sensitivity in order to obtain constructive attitudes enabling justice to be done and to be seen to be done.

With a record of unusual, irregular, and inconsistent British legal process as it has affected Irish people it ill behoves a British Prime Minister, in hectoring tones, to accuse Ireland of mis-handling Irish legal process before it has been properly initiated.

Had Mrs Thatcher acknowledged, instead, the difficulties of a Fianna Fáil government in the area of extradition, especially in the overall context of the particular case of Fr Patrick Ryan, and then gone on to express confidence in the Irish Attorney General's position in relation to the application of Irish law, she would have spared him the enormous difficulties now placed upon him by the pressures directly deriving from her statement. This, added to the incredibly in-judicious comments of the British tabloid press, all suggest to many Irish people that, with indecent haste, Fr Ryan can be deemed guilty by inference before any trial has commenced.

It is time to ask whether laws affecting matters which are *sub judice* are operating. The least Mrs Thatcher can do is withdraw her accusatory statement of November 29.

Yours etc,  
JOHN ROBB,  
New Ireland Group,  
Fountain Street,  
College Street, Belfast,  
December 2.

## Child law reform

From Mr Peter Riches  
Sir, The newly-published Children Bill is a missed opportunity to introduce family courts as part of a package of child law reform. There are many welcome individual improvements outlined in the Bill, but the courtrooms and court procedures, especially in juvenile courts, will still be dominated by the adversarial culture of criminal law.

A recently-published study, commissioned by the Family Courts Campaign, showed that cost was not a barrier to establishing family courts and may well save the taxpayer money. A fundamental reform of our inadequate court structure for family matters and a proper support structure of court welfare services would be the right arena for implementing the improved children's law.

The proposed Bill, without a family court, will not give families and children the measure of justice they need and deserve. Yours faithfully,  
PETER RICHES (Co-ordinator),  
Family Courts Campaign,  
9 Walkey Street, ECL.

## No fun on the Fen

From Dr A. M. Parsons  
Sir, Dr Mason (November 25) is wrong in supposing that the Hundred-Foot Washes are discharged at low tide. The Washlands are a privilege shared with the river Ouse, of which the Cam is a tributary.

However, the river waters are largely diverted before they reach the Cam along the Old and New Bedford rivers. The former is controlled by the Seven Holes Sluice, but the latter is not controlled and tidal water might one day, at least in principle, enter the former county of Huntingdon; not that we want it particularly.

Nor do we want surplus population from the city of Cambridge. We have taken more than our quota of that in recent years.

If the Dutch took the danger of flooding as seriously as Dr Mason thinks that we should, most of the population of The Netherlands would be concentrated along the German border.

Yours faithfully,  
A. M. PARSONS,  
14 Woodlands,  
St Neots, Cambridgeshire,  
November 26.

## Held in camera

From Mr Robin Borwick  
Sir, Mr Colin Hannaford (November 23) tells us that he has lost several camera lens caps. In common with many other people, no doubt he has left them at beauty spots and other tourist attractions, abandoning them for the owner to tidy up and never bothering to reclaim them.

I have quite a collection of these things. Can any of your readers tell me what to do with them? They are useless (even if washed before-hand) for capping Marmite jars.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBIN BORWICK,  
Libou Island, Channel Islands.

From Mr Patrick Young  
Sir, I have a 72 mm lens. What would your correspondent suggest the lid off a jumbo pot of

Yeggenie perhaps?  
Yours faithfully,  
PATRICK YOUNG,  
8 Lansdowne Walk, W11.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Raising the UK's voice in Europe

From Mr Vernon Bogdanor  
Sir, John Biffen ("A firmer hand in Europe", November 29) is right to raise the problem of the accountability of the institutions of the European Community. But his diagnosis of the problem is mistaken, and so his suggested remedy is of little use.

The House of Commons might conceivably have been able to hold ministers to account over Community affairs before the coming into force of the Single European Act. But that Act, which provides for a wide extension of majority voting in the Council of Ministers, in effect deprives the British Government of its veto over a whole range of Community policies. It is hardly possible for the House of Commons to enforce accountability when Community legislation can be adopted against the wishes of British ministers.

Democratic accountability over Community institutions, therefore, cannot be secured at Westminster by establishing new committees. If the "democratic deficit", to which a number of Conservative MEPs have drawn attention, is to be corrected, this must be done through strengthening the European Parliament.

When the Prime Minister, speaking at Brussels, declared that "our future must lie in willing and active co-operation between independent sovereign governments, each answerable to their national parliaments", she was being *anachronistic*. This Gaullist vision, whatever its merits, has been rendered untenable by the Single European Act and the extension of majority voting.

Both the Prime Minister and Mr Biffen would be making a more valuable contribution to the debate by putting forward proposals designed to ensure that Community legislation is made properly subject to democratic accountability at Community level.

Yours faithfully,  
VERNON BOGDANOR,  
Brasenose College, Oxford,  
November 29.

### TV reservations

From the Chairman of LWT (Holdings) plc  
Sir, Bernard Levin's knockabout assault (November 28) on the critics of the White Paper on broadcasting not only misquoted Coleridge (Kubla Khan heard ancestral voices prophesying war; he didn't do the job himself), but seemed to rely largely on anecdotal voices — Morrison, Woolton, Halifax, Beveridge, Reith *et al.* — as evidence of blanket TV censorship, and misguided criticism by the television industry of the White Paper's proposals.

The facts are quite different. Much that is in the White Paper has been welcomed by ITV — for example, the establishment of a fifth channel, which will enlarge choice and may help to lower the cost of advertising. Much of it (for example, satellite) is inevitable, welcome or not.

ITV's major reservations are three in number, and deserve to be taken seriously. We are opposed to the loss of Channel 4, the auctioning of or tendering for franchises, and (though this is not part of the White Paper) any increase in the already penal rate of levy, or change in its basis from profits to sales.

These proposals all have the effect of weakening the ITV companies' financial strength at a time when competition is just beginning. And as a result, ITV's ability to make programmes, popular programmes as well as the programmes Bernard Levin prefers, will be seriously affected.

If the Government changes its mind on these three points, ITV will give three, as opposed to two, cheers for the White Paper. Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER BLAND,  
Chairman,  
LWT (Holdings) plc,  
South Bank Television Centre, SE1,  
November 30.

### Romanian honours

From the President of the British-Romanian Association  
Sir, The qualifications and experience as a chemist of "Madam Causescu, Academician, Doctor, Engineer" — as she is fondly referred to in the official Romanian media — have long been a subject of popular derision amongst her fellow Romanians.

Since Mr Gow, Secretary General of the Royal Society of Chemistry (November 28) denies that Madam Causescu is or has ever been an honorary fellow of that institute, would it be possible that the entry in the *International Who's Who* (presumably put together by Madam Causescu herself or her aides), listing her honorary membership of the Royal Institute of Chemistry, is another skilful piece of disinformation? Perhaps it originates from the same official presidential image-makers who widely publicised in the Romanian media a faked letter of congratulations, purportedly sent by the Queen on the occasion of President Causescu's 70th birthday?

Yours sincerely,  
IOLANDA STRANESCU,  
President,  
British-Romanian Association,  
26 Queen Anne Street, W1,  
November 29.

### Jailed in Tehran

From Mr Paul Cooper  
Sir, Next Wednesday, Roger Cooper, my brother, begins his fourth year of solitary confinement in Evin prison, Tehran. Since his arrest neither his family nor the British Government have been notified of any charges the Iranian judiciary may be considering bringing against him. He is allowed virtually no visits from members of his family or friends (about six in three years).

It is to be hoped that the improvement in diplomatic relations between our two countries may soon lead the Iranians to correct this obvious abuse of human rights. But to remind them that his case is not forgotten, a small group of Roger's friends and supporters will be holding a peaceful day-long vigil outside the Iranian Embassy in Prince's Gate on December 7.

Yours sincerely,  
PAUL COOPER,  
59 Murray Road, SW19,  
December 1.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.

### Financing care of mentally ill

From the Dean of the Institute of Psychiatry

Sir, Your leader (November 25) draws attention to the rapid decline in the care available to sufferers from schizophrenia, but fails to explain the reasons for this. Hospitals are being shut and patients ejected because the sociological theories of the 1960s, which claimed that schizophrenia was a myth, have been conveniently adopted by hard-nosed Treasury officials and hard-pressed general managers intent upon bolstering the NHS finances by the sale of hospital land.

You claim that "The Department of Health is taking an interest, albeit a cautious one, in increasing research into this disease". Sadly, this interest is so cautious as to be invisible. The department's research funds have been cut back and some of that which remains has been diverted to AIDS.

Furthermore, the Medical Research Council is having to shut one of its psychiatric research units (in Edinburgh) and scientists applying to the MRC for funds to research into schizophrenia have become accustomed to being told that their project has been approved, but unfortunately no funds are available.

Prospects for advances in our understanding of schizophrenia have never been brighter. Recent research has shown that the disorder can be caused either by a single abnormal gene or by subtle brain damage at, or before, birth. It will be a tragedy if lack of support for research prevents us translating this new knowledge into improved treatment for sufferers.

Yours sincerely,  
ROBIN M. MURRAY,  
Dean, Institute of Psychiatry,  
De Crespigny Park,  
Denmark Hill, SE5,  
November 28.

From Mr F. B. Carter  
Sir, The letter from Professor Anthony Clare (November 28) prompts reflection once again on the whole field of mental care. The difficulties the professor catalogues at Hackney are becoming nationwide.

Failure to grasp difficult realities begets this crisis as all others. There has been a running away from a natural discomfort at the contemplation of insanity in any form. The advocates of the dissolution of the mental institutions have tried to avoid such discomfort by a pretence that the insane are in reality normal.

To discharge those who can properly cope with the stress and problems of normal living is laudable, but to attribute normality to the sub-normal is a kindness to no one and can occasion the bitterest hardships.

The disparate small "community homes" are running into the greatest practical difficulties, and the cost of setting them up and maintaining them is proving prohibitive. Means must now be found whereby the best of the remaining mental institutions can be retained, and the burden of care within them accepted and administered with enlightenment by the communities they serve.

Yours sincerely,  
BERNARD CARTER,  
The Old Parsonage,  
Frindsbury, Rochester, Kent.

From Mr R. Josiah Pratt  
Sir, In contrast to Mr P. D. Palmer's peripatetic great-grandfather (November 28), my great-grandfather, the Reverend Josiah Pratt, my great-grandfather, also the Reverend Josiah Pratt; and my grandfather, the Reverend James Weston Pratt, followed each other, without a break, from 1824 to 1911, as vicars of St Stephen's, Coleman Street, in the City.

The first Josiah Pratt did, however, ensure that his fellow clergy kept on the move; he was one of the founders of the Church Missionary Society.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
R. JOSIAH PRATT,  
Sheepcotes, Chigwell Row, Essex,  
November 28.

From Mr C. G. Hawkins  
Sir, Mr P. D. Palmer's letter about the peregrinations, as a Wesleyan minister, of his great-grandfather reminded me that I had a great-uncle who also moved frequently about the country, usually, I believe, at the behest of the Wesleyan Conference.

Some individual Nonconformist churches would, however, invite a minister of their choice. When such an invitation was received, it is said that the minister's children could be heard to comment: "Father is downstairs praying for guidance; mother is upstairs packing."

Yours faithfully,  
C. G. HAWKINS,  
High Bank, Summer Lane,  
Bromeswell, Woodbridge, Suffolk,  
November 28.

From Mrs Ann Stevens  
Sir, What is the point in scientists striving to increase our life span to 130 years (Spectrum, November 28) when by all accounts the planet Earth as we know it may only have another century to go (report, November 29). And we can't even safely eat a lightly-boiled egg!

Yours faithfully,  
ANN P. STEVENS,  
Rosemary Cottage, Dunksell,  
Honiton, Devon.

### Life expectations

From Mrs Ann Stevens  
Sir, What is the point in scientists striving to increase our life span to 130 years (Spectrum, November 28) when by all accounts the planet Earth as we know it may only have another century to go (report, November 29). And we can't even safely eat a lightly-boiled egg!

Yours faithfully,  
ANN P. STEVENS,  
Rosemary Cottage, Dunksell,  
Honiton, Devon.











## SHOPPING

## Glassy point of sale

Britain's museum shops are going into the replica business. Deyan Sudjic reports



Busy at the cases: inspecting the contents of the Victoria & Albert Museum shop

Shortly before Sir Roy Strong's sudden departure from the Victoria & Albert Museum last year, he blurted out that what he really wanted to do for the museum was to make it the Laura Ashley of the 1990s. It was one of his more quixotic statements, brought on by the need to raise the cash to fix the V & A's leaking roof, and rescue its more distant galleries from 20 years of squalor and neglect. But it was, nevertheless, a notion which reflects the rapidly changing face of the modern museum.

Whether they like it or not, museums have become one of the late 20th century's more important growth industries. Run by directors who are more likely to be cultural impresarios than scholars, they have become as fiercely competitive as any high street retail chain. Like department stores, they are forever opening new wings, refurbishing their restaurants, and opening bigger and better shops. Indeed, museums' policies are geared more and more to boosting their positions in the visitor ratings table. It is the big, flashy shows that pull in the numbers, and provide a

chance to relieve the punters of ever larger sums of money, spent on the associated merchandise. And the curators fight to put them on.

New York's Metropolitan Museum is perhaps the most conspicuous victim of museum elephantiasis. Its endless new wings now seem to stretch half way across Central Park, and its shop, along with its mail order business, has a turnover of \$200 million (£105 million) a year, selling everything from postcards to log baskets. A museum chargecard can't be far off.

At the Museum of Modern Art, also in New York, the museum shop, newly extended and refurbished, is now larger and more prominent than many of its minor departments. It gets pride of place in the main entrance hall to the museum and is laid out



Blue Egyptian cat replica. £7.50 from the British Museum shop

on two floors. Any bigger and the predictions of Saatchi's irritating advertising campaign for the V & A will come true: "An ace shop, with quite a nice museum attached". New York's conspicuous consumers besiege the supermarket checkout tills here in the run up to Christmas, stocking up on quartz halogen table lights, Charles Eames armchairs, anorexic Danish

wristwatches, and desk calendars that require PhD's in mathematics to decipher.

In fact MoMA, as it likes to call itself, helped trigger off the current explosion in museum retailing when it began collecting industrial design — that is objects such as cigarette lighters, television sets, glassware and furniture that you can see displayed just as well in the average up-market furniture store, as in the hallowed cases

of the museum itself. Before MoMA got into its stride, the average museum shop concentrated on plaster casts of popular classic items from its collection. Or, in Britain, on tacky spin-offs: museum bookmarks, diaries and Victorian posies. At MoMA they got quickly into the mainstream of merchandising because so many of the items in their collection are mass produced.

Dealing with industrial design put the museum in a dilemma. On the one hand it wanted to show that mass produced every day objects, stripped of the mystique of art or history, were in themselves worthy of study. But at the same time, by putting these artefacts into a museum they transformed them into something else. If you put a television set behind glass, defend it with a warder and put a label next to it, then it is going to look like art.

What is the appropriate response to buying a desk lamp, for example, that is in a museum collection? Should you handle it only with gloves, and lock it away in a climate-controlled vault like a Picasso drawing?

Manufacturers, predictably, have no such qualms. They were delighted to discover that applying the magic words "Collective for the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art" to the labels had a potent effect on their sales. It was transferring a little of the gloss of museum prestige, in fact. This wasn't a case of buying a replica — you could actually go out and get the "real thing". In America, however, the phenomenon has got so far out of hand that in the MoMA galleries you can now find notices cautioning the public against buying the so-called "museum watch" which, it says, has no connection with MoMA. The implication presumably being why not buy the real thing from our shop downstairs?

Britain, of course, is still a long way behind the sophisticated marketing of the Americans. But it is rapidly trying to catch up. Perhaps the most enterprising of Britain's museums has been the V & A, which, in the wake of Strong's departure, has moved closer to Habitat than Laura Ashley. In August Sir Terence Conran — who is one of the museum's trustees — launched the Habitat range of wallpapers and fabrics based on Arts and Crafts designs from the V & A's archives. For every metre of fabric, yard of wallpaper, or pillowcase sold, the V & A gets the royalty. From Habitat's point of view the scheme has

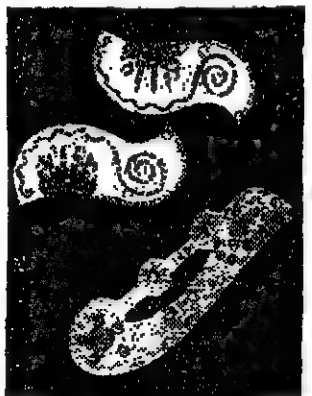
been a notable commercial success: its best-selling wallpaper is now a V & A pattern. The V & A is also one of the best-organized of British museums at getting the public into its shop, in the most efficient way possible. They went as far as hiring the high street design specialist David Davies, who used his experience with the Next chain to lay it out. It shares a prominent position on the V & A's ground floor with a Crafts Council shop.

The British Museum, on the other hand, is only just beginning to take its sales potential seriously. Its turnover is just a fraction of the Metropolitan's, even though its collection is in many ways more impressive. Sales are concentrated on a few familiar lines, mainly reproductions of exhibits, including the celebrated Lewis Chessmen, Egyptian cats and an engaging range of hippos. Without the back-up of the Americans, the BM is still a touch amateurish.

The Royal Academy, without a permanent collection, and much more tuned in to the needs of commerce, has been rather more imaginative about coming up with its own



Cutlery based on a Charles Rennie Mackintosh design, £105 per set from the British Museum



Hand painted wooden jewellery, brooch £27.50, earrings £7.15, from a range by Annie Sherburne at the Crafts Council shop within the Victoria & Albert Museum

Photographs by DAVID BANKS

wares to sell. A string of prominent academicians has been signed up to produce objects for the RA shop. There are RA labelled wines, cards, T-shirts. In fact the RA was getting so successful at this kind of thing that its marketing genius was lured away to repeat the trick for Lord Montagu's quango, English Heritage.



## WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 16

## WADSET

(c) The Scottish for a mortgage, or something pledged or pawned, also as a verb to mortgage, probably from the Old English to *wedde setas* to set to pledge.

## BENNE

(c) Sesame, the plant *Sesamum indicum*, from Meind (Sierra Leone) hence "The negroes use it as food either raw, toasted, or boiled in their soups and are very fond of it; they call it benne."

## OBANG

(b) A gold coin formerly

current in Japan, of an oblong form rounded at the corners, and equal in value to 10 kobans, from the Japanese *ō* great + *bang* sheet: "The next in size to this unwieldy coin is the Japanese obang, which weighs rather more than two ounces and a half, about equal to 10 English sovereigns."

## HEADS-UP

(c) American slang for clever, alert, shrewd: "They're playing real heads-up football"; as an interjection it is a warning of danger or the need to be alert: "Heads up, folks, here comes the old editor."

## METRO 1.0 CITY 3dr

Total cash price £5,298.00\*

\*Price correct at time of going to press. Includes estimated cost of 12 months Road Tax, number plates and delivery. Subject to vehicle availability.

Minimum Deposit £ 36 Monthly Payments\*\*\* £ Change for Credit £ Total Amount Payable £

## 11.9% APR

1,059.60 138.89 771.64 6,069.64

## 9.7% APR

1,589.40 118.15 554.80 5,852.80

## 8.2% APR

2,119.20 99.14 400.24 5,698.24

## METRO 1.0 L 5dr

Total cash price £6,638.00\*

\*Price correct at time of going to press. Includes estimated cost of 12 months Road Tax, number plates and delivery. Subject to vehicle availability.

Minimum Deposit £ 36 Monthly Payments\*\*\* £ Change for Credit £ Total Amount Payable £

## 11.9% APR

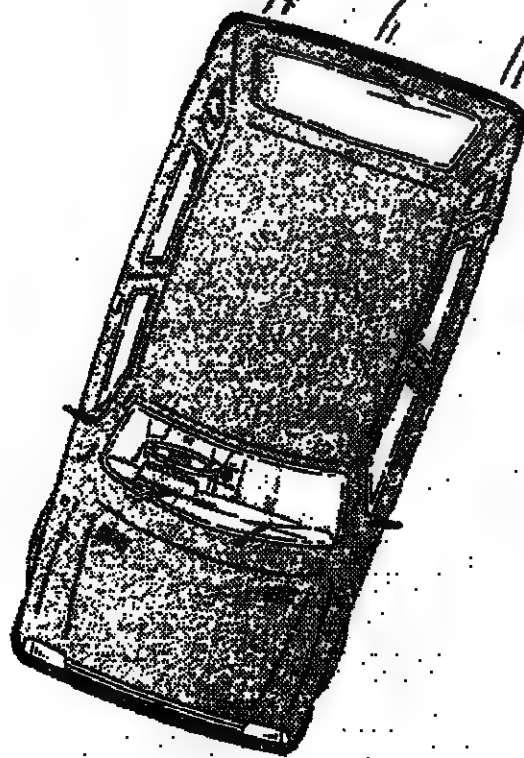
1,327.60 174.02 964.32 7,602.32

## 9.7% APR

1,991.40 148.04 692.84 7,330.84

## 8.2% APR

2,655.20 124.22 499.12 7,137.12



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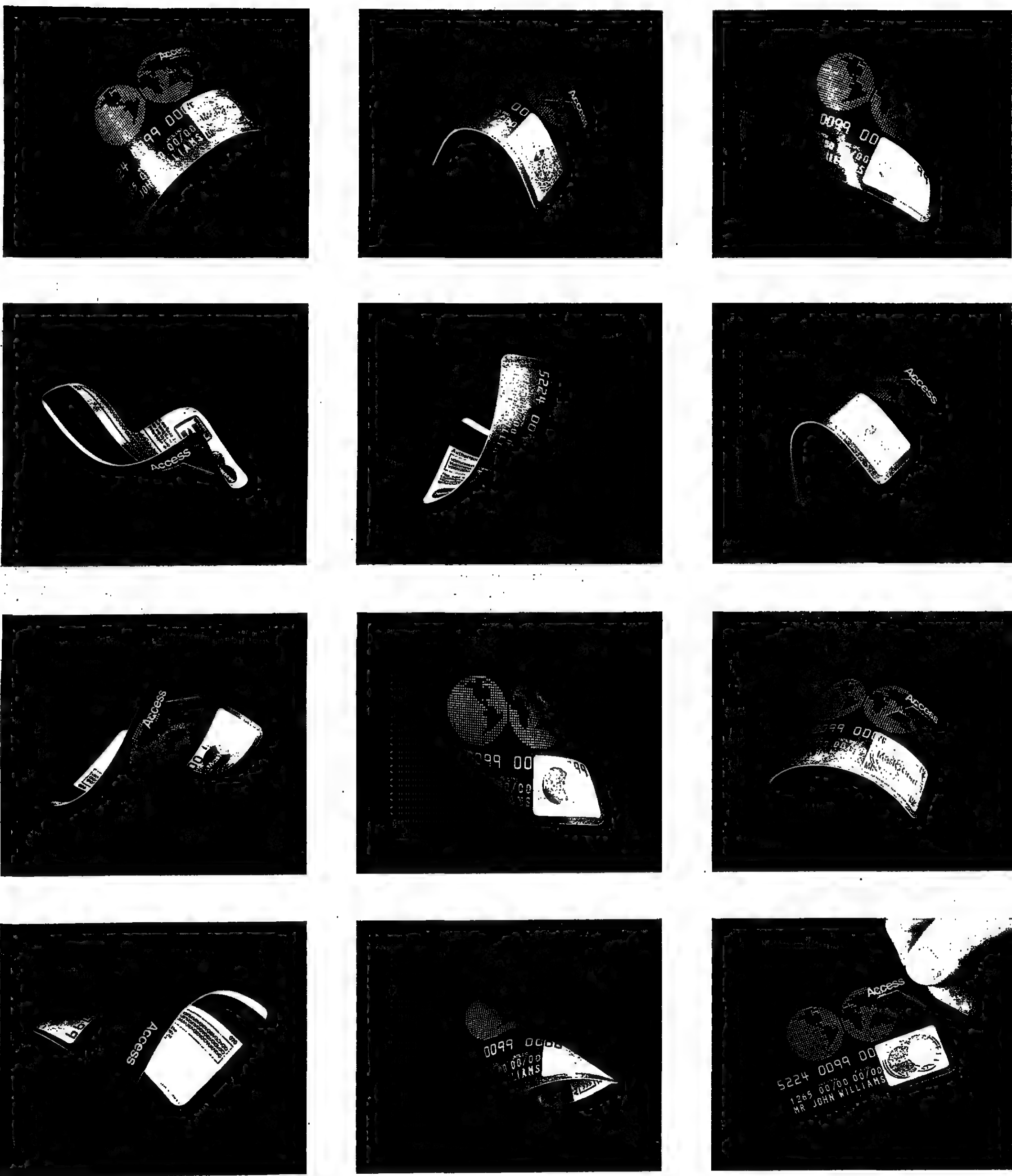


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# Woman with mental age of four to be sterilized

By Michael Horsnell

A High Court judge yesterday gave the go-ahead for a woman of 35 with a mental age of four to be sterilized after hearing that she had entered a sexual relationship with another man.

Mr Justice Scott Baker ruled in the Family Division that the woman, referred to as Miss F, may be lawfully sterilized even though she is incapable of giving her consent for the operation.

The ruling led to an immediate protest by Sir Brian Rix, chairman of the Royal Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults, who expressed his "disbelief" and called for an inquiry.

He said: "I question why the woman could not be put on the Pill, particularly as she is

tally handicapped person has been sought, have been heard in the High Court but in each of these the woman was pregnant and legal abortion was part of the application.

Mr David Venables, the Official Solicitor, said last night: "If the case goes to the Court of Appeal it will have the added authority of that court."

The judge said other methods of contraception would be unsatisfactory and could expose the woman to the "catastrophic" risk of pregnancy. She would be unable to cope with labour or looking after a baby.

The judge said Miss F had been profoundly mentally disabled since the age of about nine months. She had the verbal capacity of a two-year-old and the general mental capacity of a four or five-year-old.

But she was able to experience emotions such as enjoyment, sadness and fear.

In the "freer approach" now adopted towards mental patients, she had formed a relationship with a male patient at the hospital.

The man's mental state meant there was no question of his being regarded as criminally liable or guilty of sexual molestation.

The question of sterilization arose because Miss F, although mentally handicapped, had the same degree of fertility as any other 35-year-old woman.

In law, any medical treatment involving physical contact with a patient's body was at first sight "battery" unless the patient had expressly consented to the contact.

The judge accepted this statement of the law as far as it went. But he said it created a problem where a patient, because of a mental condition, was permanently unable to give meaningful consent to treatment for a physical condition. If a doctor did nothing, it might be claimed that he was negligent; if he operated, he might be accused of committing battery.



Sir Brian Rix: Called for an inquiry into judge's ruling.

resident in a hospital and whether there has been any consideration given to the sterilization of the man."

After hearing legal argument the judge put a two-week stay on the order consenting to the sterilization pending a possible appeal by the Official Solicitor.

Mr Alan Levy, counsel for the Official Solicitor, a "friend of the court" who was called in to ensure all the legal arguments were fully aired, told the judge it was felt that a ruling by a higher court would be useful because the case "bristled with points of importance".

Three previous cases, in which sterilization of a men-

# Countdown to the most secret shuttle



The five smiling crew members, all service personnel, leaving their earth-bound living quarters yesterday for the successful launch into space of their space shuttle Atlantis on a military mission shrouded in the

deepest secrecy which, NASA sources say, will deploy a \$500 million (£270 million) spy satellite. Within minutes of lift-off at 1430 GMT, the US Defence Department clamped a news blackout on the mission and stopped

broadcasting ground-to-air radio communications. Yesterday's was the second attempt in two days to launch the shuttle. "Atlantis begins another space voyage as it clears the tower," the official launch commentator Hugh

Harris proclaimed as the shuttle soared off into clear and sunny skies in a plume of white smoke and orange flames, in what is only the second manned US space mission since the 1986 Challenger disaster.

# TV chiefs praise Hurd choice of new supremo

Continued from page 1

May this year he took over the chairmanship of ITN.

Although he will relinquish the ITN and Channel 4 posts when he takes up the part-time job at the IBA, he intends to remain as chief executive of the Marley group, thereby keeping a firm foot in the world of industry.

The five-year appointment

carries an annual salary at present of £37,360, but that figure is under review and is likely to be increased significantly, especially after the establishment of the ITC.

The appointment was being regarded as politically astute last night, after the savage treatment meted out to ITV companies in the Government's broadcasting White

Paper. The Home Secretary has been determined to bring someone in with a business background who had an understanding of the media, and his choice is likely to improve the strained relations between the Government and the industry.

ITV and IBA chiefs could hardly believe their luck. "It's a superb news. Absolutely amaz-

ing, quite brilliant", said one official.

Sir Richard Attenborough, chairman of Channel 4, said: "It is, of course, a blow as far as Channel 4 is concerned, but looking at television as a whole I cannot think of a more appropriate appointment".

Lord Thomson warmly welcomed the appointment of his successor, saying: "He has

combined a brilliant business record of maintaining industrial change with a strong spirit of public service."

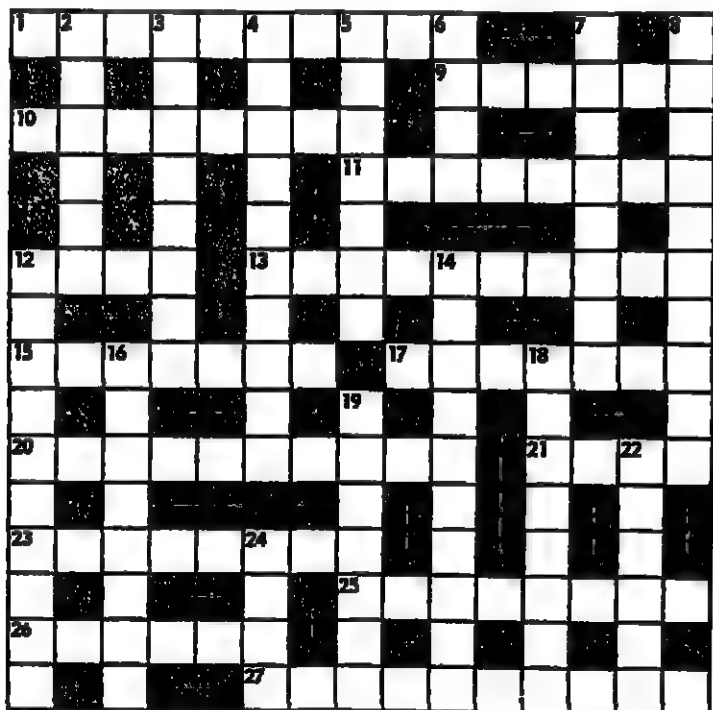
Mr John Whitney, director general of the IBA, said the appointment was good news for television. "We can now plan forward to assure the successful development of the next phase of UK broadcasting."

# Jail amnesty for foreigners

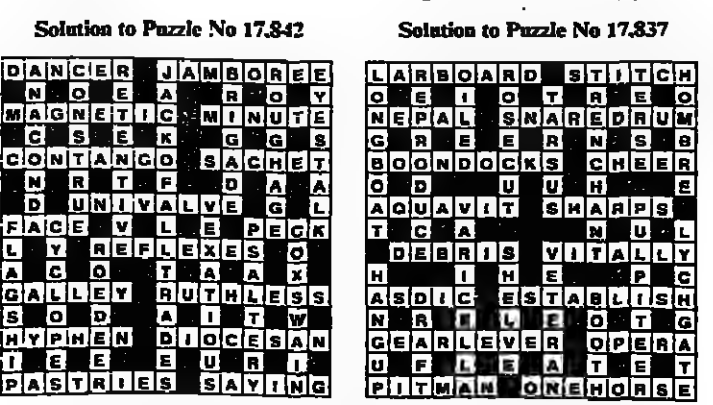
Abu Dhabi (AFP) — The President of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan, declared an amnesty yesterday for 100 foreign prisoners, officials said.

The decision, as in previous years, coincided with the Emirates' national day.

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,843



- ACROSS**
- Do hardy men relax, having achieved their objective? (4,3,3).
  - Dan Cupid? (6).
  - To get fish, man takes to a boat (4,4).
  - Beetle — boy written about by one Rudyard, heartlessly (8).
  - Issue a note to produce this (4).
  - Poem about a beautiful woman, a queen (7,3).
  - Polish poet I put in hospital (7).
  - Part of Russia is taken aback by chief of police (7).
  - Individual I have to pay proper attention to at first (10).
  - Every time a chap's taken in (4).
  - Overwhelm one woman in order to get an appointment (8).
  - Irregular policemen about to cover up disastrous raid (8).
  - Does get confused about copper coin (6).
  - Prime Minister with duller brain (4,6).
- DOWN**
- No oxygen left inside the city (6).
  - Be in one wagon — topless, but it's got nine sides (8).
  - Doubtful accession involving left of revivalist movement (10).
  - Any gold can be transmuted in twenty-four hours (7).
  - Carrier brought up in court here (4).
  - How did water get into the river? It's a mystery (8).
  - 14's way, by the sound of it (6,4).
  - One who looks solemn and then moreover runs inside (10).
  - Benedick, a new union member (10).
  - Engineer beginning to show ingenuity (8).
  - Jumbo, the plane that's been redesigned (8).
  - Craft rising city provided (7).
  - It takes one aboard a vessel (6).
  - Eager to work in silver (4).



**SHEAFFER.** A prize of a distinctive Sheaffer "Targa" Regency fountain pen with a solid 14-carat gold nib will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

## WEATHER

Most of the country will have a cloudy start with a little rain and drizzle in places, with the driest weather in the East. Becoming windier as a band of rain moves across the country. Sleet and snow possible on high ground in Scotland, drier in the West later. Outlook: cloudy, with rain at times.

### AROUND BRITAIN

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
London	12	SW 10	Cloudy	
Edinburgh	10	W 10	Cloudy	
Birmingham	11	SW 10	Cloudy	
Manchester	10	SW 10	Cloudy	
Cardiff	11	SW 10	Cloudy	
Belfast	10	SW 10	Cloudy	
Sheffield	11	SW 10	Cloudy	
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THE TIMES

# REVIEW

SECTION 3

SATURDAY DECEMBER 3 1988

## PETER PAN'S WISHING WALL

PHOTOGRAPHS BY GRAHAM WOOD



Edmund Caswell and his mural, which will be unveiled next Tuesday at the Hospital For Sick Children: "Our society only sees finished work, and has no conception of the processes of change, evolution and experiment that follow the first mark on the wall."

The boy was sick, thin, pale. He came down the corridor slowly. He was propping up, or perhaps being propped by, a wheeled rack from which hung a drip, the tube running to his arm. He stood by the artist. "Want any help?" he said, after a moment or two. "I can draw birds." Given a brush, he did so. Then: "That's a heron. I've got a book on birds. I'll come back tomorrow, make it right." And he did.

"His name was Tim, that's all I know," the artist said. "He'd be 20 now. If he didn't die. I hope he'll be there when they start passing the champagne next Tuesday. Without him, I'm not sure this would have been finished. In all the world at that time, he seemed the only person with eyes to see."

The champagne will be poured at the Hospital For Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, when Lady Callaghan of Cardiff unveils a remarkable work of art, a mural 72ft by 8ft, peopled with more than 400 figures telling in startling and vigorous detail that marvellous tale of Peter Pan.

Edmund Caswell began the mural eight years ago. To complete it he has had to overcome personal crises, such as when the roof came off his home and when the bottom fell out of his overdraft, his own serious sickness, and strands of wounding opposition — some touching upon the bizarre — from within one of the world's most famous places of healing.

More specifically, he has worked through the night (8pm to 8am on weekdays, 8pm to noon at weekends) for the past 11 months to complete it. "An obsession? Yes, of course, in the end," he admits. "This is a celebration of the most famous children's story, in the place most connected with the memory of its author, Sir James Barrie. A year's sleep is no great sacrifice to bring it to the stage where you can all can now stand back and judge."

In her speech on Tuesday, Lady Callaghan will undoubtedly touch on the serendipity of his timing: as Caswell's brush flicked in the final details of Tinker Bell's wings, the House of Lords was nodding through an amendment to the Copyright, Design and Patent Bill. Instead of ending at the fiftieth anniversary of Barrie's death, royalties on the Peter Pan story in all its forms will continue to flow to Great Ormond Street. So now there is a Peter Pan

**BRIAN JAMES**  
AT GREAT ORMOND STREET



Eight years ago a painter started a mural at J.M. Barrie's favourite hospital; and like Barrie's most famous character, he fought some strange battles along the way

Wall to stand alongside that Peter Pan Ward and Peter Pan Canteen which had been in part paid for by a half-century of income from Barrie's bequest. And very possibly listening to Lady Callaghan will be the senior member of the medical staff who recently hissed to Caswell: "If Barrie were alive today, we would never allow him to set foot inside the hospital."

For what Caswell had done, as he threw his magic shapes on to that institutional emulsion, was to bring foaming to the surface the phobic suspicions about the true nature of one of this century's greatest children's writers.

"He's another Peter Pan himself," Caswell's wife says. "An innocent. An unworried man. And so unprepared for some of the things lying in wait when he started out on this."

Now aged 50, Caswell was born in India, to a military-

civil service family. He was brought to Britain at seven, went to school in Coventry, and won a junior art scholarship, but abandoned the easel for a greater love, horses.

He farmed for a while, before leaving to paint scenery and empty the ashtrays at the old Royal Artillery for six years to again work with horses, while studying for the priesthood. Abandoned the cloth when he found that celibacy lacked appeal, but that decorating the hall for the Officer's Ball was compulsive.

He expects you to gather from all this that he was not a young man filled with a sense of mission. A failed marriage and several careers later he decided, at 38, to tackle art seriously and enrolled as a student at Middlesex Poly-

technic. His first-year task was to paint a mural on 30ft of wall in a west London geriatric hospital: it was a turning point.

"I chose Carnival as my subject. Filled the wall with beautiful people. The effect on those old dears was astonishing. Suddenly everyone was smacking on the cosmetics: old ladies who hadn't looked up in months began getting their hair done. They identified: you know, 'Dearie, that one there... that's how I used to look,' they'd tell me. Nurses said that some of them, dying, clung on six months just to see it finished. I knew then what I wanted to do."

The chance came via the Yellow Pages. Penny Uppichard, public relations officer at Great Ormond Street, knew that parents with sick, fretful children often spent dragging hours waiting

in the corridor outside the hospital pharmacy. "I thought perhaps a mural would cheer things up," she says. "I opened the book at Arts Schools and stuck in my finger. I wasn't too clear what we wanted. Perhaps the sort of rough, colourful drawing they do with white-wash brushes on boardings around building sites. Might take a morning or two. Now, eight years later... but so worth waiting for."

When Middlesex Poly told Caswell what they had in mind for his second-year project, he nearly took off and flew about like Tinker Bell.

"This was perfect! Maybe they thought they were going to get a few Disney animals. But in this place it had to be Barrie. I knew Peter Pan, you see. Margaret Lockwood had done the play when I was at Coventry. I was word-perfect in Peter's part. I loved that story. Was there ever going to be a better place to draw it? I was so up on this..."

It was three months later that the first down came. Sketching in a frenzy, Caswell had produced in terracotta chalk a life-size cartoon for the proposed work. The hospital invited department heads, administrators and governors to watch him pin his sketch to the wall. Upstairs, "You'd think I'd pinned up the 'Rape of the Sabine Women'," Caswell says. "Or worse. The hall was full of quivering pointed fingers. I was attacked on all sides. To capture the flow and rhythm I intended, I'd drawn bodies. Unclothed. I tried to explain that I didn't draw jackets with heads on, that the mural would grow on the wall, that the clothing was a detail that would emerge. But some people could see nothing but the nakedness."

To calm things down, the hospital suggested he "write something... just to explain." "I wouldn't do that. A few sentences to try to explain what art was about? Too patronizing. Anyway, I wouldn't cope with the anger I now felt. Instead I wrote my poem." His Tim is in the poem, like this:

*He stands before me, drip on stand, making suggestions... And offers help, if that's OK... He very soon begins to wilt, and leaves... His drip is as a tilt... Back tomorrow with a book on birds... He waves... and I think that, at last... I'm heard...*

So is the doctor who came quivering with rage to Caswell. And pointed. "I demand to know... what is that man doing with that boy?"

*His voice is throttled as he waffles and queries Pirate holding boys at bay 'what are they doing what deeds pursuing this mural cannot stay! I won't stand it, I'll unhand The Governing Body will hear today....'*

"I think," Caswell says, "he was from the psychiatric department. I wonder who treats him? But he wasn't alone in trying to look into the mural as it grew for evidence of some filth. As though I was creating a memorial to paedophilia instead of a celebration of one of the most exciting children's tales ever written."

That poem was later fixed to the wall: some staff even established a weird sort of recognition by claiming

authorship for the remarks that so wounded Caswell. "Oh, look," they'd trill. "See 'Picaso gone wrong' or 'Mere graffiti'? That was me!" But fewer were anxious to give tongue to the "pedagogic view" that Caswell's boom indicted.

What the brushes of Edmund Caswell, the eternal innocent, had uncovered were dormant doubts about Barrie himself. A book and a tele-

Continued overleaf



A detail from Edmund Caswell's original chalk cartoon made eight years ago... a full-size sketch to indicate the incidents he intended to portray and the characters he would include. His chalk-lines concentrated on the physiology, as a guide for the posture, position and movement of his later-to-be-clothed cast: too many, however, saw in these outlines no more than writhing nudes.

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# PETER PAN'S WISHING WALL



Continued from previous page

vision series in the Seventies had provoked intense discussion about the true nature of the Scots playwright, a strange inverted character who scarce grew above a child in stature and who so adored childhood that he declared: "Nothing that happens in life after the age of 12 matters very much."

Caswell says now: "I was shaken, bewildered by such reactions. I would come in and find people standing in front of the mural, trying to work out if I'd drawn someone groping Wendy. For a long time I was inhibited. Tim helped. We have a society that goes to the theatre, the galleries, watches TV and only ever sees finished work, and thus has no conception of the processes of change, evolution and experiment that follow the first mark you make on the wall. Even Tim's hero is now a flamingo."

The misunderstandings have not been all on one side. Caswell, lunging at his wall to remove a whole range of mountains he had decided after a year served no purpose, would not easily see into the minds of scurrying administrators arguing over ward closures, nor understand why doctors, preoccupied with life-and-death choices, might believe four nights' tinkering to perfect Captain Hook's snub a matter of sublime unimportance.

Thus Caswell's irritation when he discovered after one absence that his paint trolley had been stored in some forgotten place. Thus his fury to learn that at one point developers had well-advanced plans to knock down his half-finished wall altogether. Thus his inability to comprehend the enmity of a ward sister when money was found to spotlight his wall after her demand for items of equipment had been turned down. And thus, particularly, his continuing feud with an official who wants the two doors and two windows which pierce his mural each enlarged

to speed the passing out of pharmacy tablets.

"Some people see what I am doing as some sort of frill in serious times," he observes. "Some busy people get infuriated when they see me sitting there, staring for hours. I should be up there sloshing paint as though I'd been contracted to put on two coats of Dulux. And some people clearly think I'm on to a good thing, exploiting the hospital. I've had people muttering, 'Oh, he's just messing about - trying to spin it out.' They just don't know."

What they don't know is that this is literally a labour of love. Caswell was given £300 for paints eight years ago. That was all spent, and he was deep into his own pocket long before mounting debts made him cut his nights on the wall to two a week, in order that he could work - at his other crafts as book illustrator or painter and decorator - to eat.

The search for a sponsor failed (partly because that plan to pull down the wall as part of Great Ormond Street rebuilding was still alive), but £2,000 was found, doled out in £250 portions to finance this past year. "Paint alone will have cost £1,200: the drying liquid I use so that people don't ruin clothes when the hospital opens each day costs £16 a tin and goes nowhere. So, no, this has scarcely been a quick road to fortune."

As he has worked, the conviction has grown in Caswell's mind that the only perversions that can be linked with Barrie's name lie in the mind of others. "There is a very old nursing sister still about," he says. "She knew Barrie when he was a visitor here. She has told me, 'I don't care what they say. If he was a latent homosexual, then even he didn't know it'. That is rather my conviction: that Barrie didn't lust after little boys, but was in love with boyhood."

That has always been the most charitable view of Barrie's odd, depression-dogged

life, the waymarks of which have been plainly plotted. The death at 13 of an elder brother, David, in a skating accident, drew a brooding family in upon itself. The six-year-old James became some sort of symbol of lost childhood for his mother, and his own "not growing up" a device to assuage her loss.

But it was his later friendship with the sons of his friends Arthur and Sylvia Lewelyn Davies which provided Barrie with all his most creative and most tragic days, and his biographers with their richest seams. The Davieses then had three sons, George, Jack and Peter: Michael and Nicholas would later be added to their family and to Barrie's circle of enthralled listeners.

For the taciturn little Scot was at ease only with the young, and wandering with the boys in Kensington Gardens he would invent and embroider tales of fairies and castaways, pirates and demons. And they in turn began to be woven into his fantasies. Peter Davies was the clear model for Peter Pan (and would in later life, before throwing himself in front of a Tube train, write bitterly of being pursued by "that terrible masterpiece"), while George figured in a Barrie novel about a bachelor who meets a boy while walking in the park and conceives a scheme for them to enter a permanent never-land together.

This is the stuff of both dreams and diagnoses. Yet Nicholas, writing in late adulthood, would insist: "I say for



certain that I who lived with him on and off for more than 20 years - alone for five of those years - never heard one word, saw one glimmer of anything approaching homosexuality or paedophilia. He was an innocent, which is why he could write *Peter Pan*." Which James Matthew Barrie had done, to instant success, in 1904.

Between 1907 and 1909, both Arthur and Sylvia Davies died of cancer. Barrie, now divorced from his own childless marriage, became the boys' guardian. His favourite was clearly George, who was killed in Flanders in 1914. Barrie's deepest affection was distilled now in favour of Michael, about whom he became embarrassingly pos-

sessive. Michael drowned, at 20, in 1920.

Much of the energy of Barrie's remaining life was bent towards Great Ormond Street. It was he who took the current cast of the play, including Sir Gerald du Maurier, Marie Lohr and Mary Casson, to perform scenes in the wards. Few subsequent productions have not followed the precedent: the Captains Hook who have stalked Great Ormond Street include Ralph Richardson, Charles Laughton, Donald Wolfit and Alastair Sim, while "Peter" has been Gladys Cooper, Anna Neagle, Sarah Churchill, Hayley Mills and Maggie Smith. Eight years before his death in 1937, Barrie willed every sum from *Peter Pan* - the play, the films, the cartoons, the books, the musical on ice - to the hospital.

Barrie was not the first literary figure to fall under Great Ormond Street's own powerful spell. It opened in 1852 against a background of a London in which of the 50,000 who died the previous year, 21,000 had not reached their tenth birthday. Yet not only did Britain have no hospital specifically for children, adult hospitals refused to admit the young on the grounds that they carried infection. No wonder, Charles Dickens was moved to write his famous pamphlet, *Drooping Buds*: "What should we say of a rose-tree in which one bud of every three dropped to the soil dead? ... this is not natural to roses, neither is it natural to men and women that they

should see the glaze of death upon so many of the bright eyes ... think of it again. Of all the coffins made in London, more than one in three is made for a little child."

Dickens's strident sentimentality, in pamphlets which were sold, in his novels which gave walk-on parts to the institution, in Public Readings that he gave, helped save Great Ormond Street from early bankruptcy, and established a tradition of patronage that Barrie much encouraged and others have manifestly taken up.

The Sick Children's Hospital is currently in the midst of the Wishing Well appeal for £42 million, with which it will rebuild much of the structure where 1,650 staff annually care for 9,000 in-patients and treat 70,000 out-patients, many brought with intractable illnesses from the world's most distant corners.

To urge the money-making along, the Princess of Wales has played tennis for the cause, Frank Bruno has sparred, Sharron Davies swum, Seb Coe run, Red Arrows soared, Marines abseiled, Boy George simpered, Jeffrey Archer told jokes and hundreds endured them, and the fit and the fat in their thousands puffed marathon distances.

So successful, indeed, have the tin-rattlers of Great Ormond Street become that other children's hospitals

have been heard to mutter darkly that the Wishing Well was soaking up the funds upon which they, too, depended (putting up an appeal poster right across the street from Manchester's own children's department certainly was a shade tactless). The WW responded by offering to share with children's units in Birmingham, Glasgow and Manchester the money collected from those areas.

Great Ormond Street's special cachet is also why Lady Callaghan, as chairman of the Special Trustees (who are

charged with the spending of all endowment, non-NHS funds), found a ready listener when she went home "muttering gloomily" about the fact that the Barrie funds were about to dry up, with the ending at the fiftieth anniversary of his death of the obligation under copyright to subvent the hospital.

Ex-prime ministers, she asked her husband, surely had a little clout still? "I said I'd ask around," Lord Callaghan remembers, "and see what I could do. For a cause like this ... and actually, everybody was absolutely ready to help." Indeed. Prompted by a suggestion in a letter to *The Times*, the Government's own lawyers drafted the amendment to permit Great Ormond Street to retain the right to royalties, though losing the right to forbid exploitation of Barrie's work. And, save for one ignoble lord who wondered if this was not setting a precedent (and found himself accused of being like a nasty schoolboy who refused to clap hands to save the life of Tinker Bell), the amendment slid through to Royal Assent.

It is not mere "fashion", the hospital insists, that accounts for all this. "We have been here for over 120 years, which has established an ethos," Lady Callaghan says. "And now, as then, we are doing things right on the edge of medicine. A couple brought us a child whom we could not save. Yet since then they alone have raised over £200,000. Do you see?"

Such awareness informs Edmund Caswell, too. When the griping was wearing him down, slowing his arm, his wife would remind him in jest that Michelangelo had finished the Sistine Chapel under the burden of daily harassment from Pope Julius II. That helped. But what helped more was his belief that this boldly executed Peter Pan, seen bravely vanquishing Captain Hook, crocodile and fear, will fill the eye and minds of children waiting to discover whether pills and syrups can vanquish their own pain.



# A touch of Lime



## OUT &amp; ABOUT



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# Don't mention the lions

After the tourists have tired of wildlife and the crowds thin,  
Nigel Andrew visits Longleat — at the best time of year

I have not seen the lions of Longleat, and that's fine by me. At this time of year England's first and most famous Safari Park is closed. So are the Adventure Castle, the Railway, the Maze... On the day I visited, even the exhibition of Lord Weymouth's murals was closed. Fortune has indeed smiled on me.

With all these dubious attractions hibernating, and the summer throng of visitors down to a steady trickle, this is just the time of year to visit Longleat. What remains open is the house — and what a house it is.

There may be more beautiful buildings, but in the matter of house-and-setting combined, it is hard to think of anything to equal Longleat. It simply looks perfect, standing in its wide wooded valley, surrounded by the rolling acres of a consummate Capability Brown park. Nature lies tamed and exalted as far as the eye can see, and the great house, silvery and lichened, seems to have grown into the landscape over the centu-

ries. This is the sort of effortless immemorial grandeur we expect of the English stately home, and seldom find in quite such concentrated form.

It must have been the setting as much as anything else that attracted the attention of Sir John Thynne, as he scanned the property columns of *Ye Dissolution Times* and *Asset-Stripper's Gazette* in 1540. Augustinian priory, own water, fertile land, sweet air, well wooded environs, fishponds and usual offices, scope for redevelopment, suit young man on the make, £53 with vacant possession. "The builder", as Sir John came to be known, snapped it up and set to work converting the priory into a house fit for an enormously rich and influential self-made courtier.

His earlier efforts were destroyed by fire in 1567, and the

present house is a third rebuilding: the builder had the builders in for an unconscionable long time. But he entered into the spirit of the thing, and was probably the brains behind the design, with the great Robert Smythson as his principal architect, or rather mason. The scale is enormous and the four-square symmetry and avant-garde detailing are firmly classical. But those ranks of huge, mullioned windows put it squarely in the English tradition. It was the first, and perhaps most perfect, of the Elizabethan "prodigy houses".

Unfortunately (or is it?) very little remains of Sir John Thynne's interior — only the Great Hall in fact, and that has been much altered. Here a famous and still chilling relic is on display — the white waistcoat worn by Charles I at his execution,

complete with barely visible bloodstains. Internally Longleat is a 19th-century house of the utmost magnificence, much altered by Wyattville, and worked up to a pitch of decorative extravagance in the 1870s and 1880s.

It is guided tours only at Longleat. I do not care for guided tours generally, preferring to have more time to look, and to be fed facts rather than well-worn anecdotes about The Family. All I ask for is to be left alone with a good guide book and as much time as I want. Sadly the current Longleat guidebook seems to be a product of the "leisure industry" — beautifully illustrated, but woefully short of solid information, even about the family.

The sixth Marquess, showman that he is, has clearly realized that what most people want in a stately home is a lot of pictures of the

owner and his family. He has provided plenty for them to goggle over here, covering every flat surface with family snapshots and leaving personal mementoes "casually" lying about everywhere.

If you can manage to concentrate on the house itself, the effect is quite stunning in its richness. There is certainly too much to be taken in on a guided tour, even at off-season speed. The paintings alone are overwhelming in quantity and quality, including two separate great collections — one Italian, one Dutch — as well as fine portraits and hunting scenes by the dozen.

The most recent acquisition, hung in a corridor, is the most eye-catching of all. Presented by the BBC, it is an original of a painting made famous by that appalling comedy series *'Allo 'Allo*.

Longleat House, near Warminster, Wiltshire (08853 551), is open daily all the year (except Christmas Day). Winter hours: 10am-4pm. Admission £2.80, OAP £2.30, child £1.

## OUTINGS

**ZOO CHECK EXHIBITION:** Fifty eminent artists — including Elizabeth Frink, David Bailey, and Geoffrey Disher — exhibit their work in aid of the registered charity, founded by Virginia McKenna to monitor the conditions in which animals are kept in captivity and with the aim of establishing minimum licensing standards within EEC regulations. All pieces for sale — from drawings, paintings, prints and photographs to carvings, ceramics, glass and recycled material. The more important items will be auctioned on Wed at 6pm. Hay's Galleria, Tooley Street, London SE1. Today until Dec 9, 10am-6pm. Free.

**THE LONDON ORIGINAL PRINT FAIR:** Leading print dealers from

Great Britain, Europe and the US exhibit at the Royal Academy this weekend. More than 6,000 original prints for sale, including old masters and modern contemporary prints.

The Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1. Today, tomorrow, Mon, 11am-6pm. Admission including catalogue £4, child/student £2.

**VICTORIAN CRAFTS FOR CHRISTMAS:** Local craftsmen and women demonstrate techniques and sell their work — from marquetry to miniature painting, plus secondhand book and plant stalls, Father Christmas, refreshments, and an opportunity to look over the house and gardens. Red House Museum, Quay Road, Christchurch, Hampshire. Tomorrow, 10am-5pm. Adult 50p, child 30p.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL:** Jane Glover conducts the London Mozart players, with John Ogden and Brenda Lucas on piano, in a concert which includes Mozart's *Toy Symphony*, Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*, Saint-Saëns's *Carnival of the Animals*, and *Three German Dances* by Mozart. Selections of Ogden Nash's poems plus guest appearances and narrations by Bob Holness and Colin Baker. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (box office 01-638 8891). Tomorrow 3pm. Tickets £5.50-£12.50.

**THURSDAY CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Organs, engines, gondolas plus a cabaret and licensed bar. Thurford Collection, Thurford, Fakenham, Norfolk (0328 77477). Today 7pm. Tickets £3.35.

Judy Froshaug

## WEATHER

## Outlook, very changeable

Andro Linklater peers into a world of occluded fronts and discovers some storm showers on the horizon

As Copernicus is to astronomy and Bosanquet to the goology, so is Bergeron Bjerknes to meteorology. It was he, starting out of a window of the Bergen meteorological office in the 1920s, who noticed that the clouds advanced from the horizon in long, distinct bands. Linking this observation to changes in barometric pressure, he evolved the theory of weather frontal systems.

"Bjerknes is one of my heroes," says Norman Lynagh, chief meteorologist for the marine and offshore engineering company, Noble Denton. "His observations mark the starting point of modern meteorology."

For many years, all weather information in the United Kingdom was supplied by the Meteorological Office, and if you did not trust its "sunny intervals with the possibility of showers", the only recourse was to see how high the seagulls were flying or whether the sky was red at night. Now all that has changed and anyone can know

The problem is particularly acute because the Met Office is to be floated off as an independent agency in 1990. Negotiations are under way with the private forecasters to see whether they will agree to pay a charge for information, but they are unlikely to agree. They will argue that the value of a forecast lies in the interpretation of the data.

It is not enough for a prediction to be accurate... indeed, an audience survey has established that no more than 20 per cent of the information given is understood by the audience. This is partly the fault of an optimistic inclination to hear "sunny spells" as meaning mostly sunshine, when it really means mostly clouds, but it is also a matter of jargon. "If you have decided it is going to be a miserable day, you should use those words," Lynagh says.

It seems that national prejudices are to be found even in the world of meteorology. It cannot wholly be chance that the Met Office computer model is particularly good at predicting the fast-moving, low-pressure systems of spring and autumn when the weather is at its most typically British, but that the independents should turn to West Germany's machine during the settled winter and summer patterns when high pressure over Scandinavia brings east winds

and a taste of continental weather. And while our own Ian McCaskill frequently blames a depression over Iceland for the rain that falls here, his counterparts in France do not hesitate to pin the responsibility for any lapses in French weather on the grey and foggy climate across the Channel.

In an attempt to reduce this personal element, some weather services have tried dispensing with meteorologists, relying instead on the computer to interpret its own data. Tests in the Netherlands showed, however, that while man and machine produced the same results forecasting the weather more than 48 hours ahead, the meteorologist with all his quirks was superior over the short term.

"What you are trying to forecast is the behaviour of a free-flowing fluid," Lynagh says. "However much you measure it, the data can only be approximate. The skill in forecasting lies in understanding what the atmosphere is doing. In the end I think it will always remain somewhere between an art and a science."



The weatherman: McCaskill

**NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF CAGE AND AVIARY BIRDS:** A record 10,000 birds, including canaries, budgerigars, foreign and British birds, are on show competing for 70 trophies. Displays by the British Waterfowl Association, the Foreign Bird Association and the Domestic Fowl Trust. Hall 4, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Today 10am-7pm, tomorrow 10am-6pm. Adult £4, child £1.

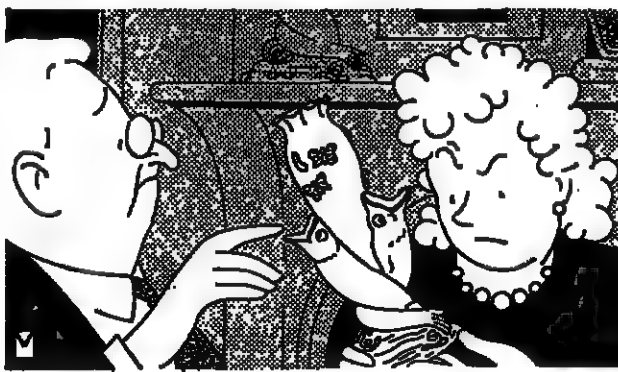
**FESTIVAL OF MARTIAL ARTS:** Presented by exponent Mike Flinn, holder of 40 black belts in 10 martial arts — gained in Japan — with the Elite Martial Academy — in a stunning reaction of famous Samurais. Lewisham Theatre, Rushey Green, Catford, London SE8 (box office 01-609 0002). Tonight, 7.45pm. Tickets £5.50-£5.50.

**MARVELL WINTER WONDERLAND:** Christmas groto, five reindeer and plenty of festive entertainment. Marwell Zoological Park, Colborn Common, Winchester, Hampshire. Today, tomorrow 10am-5pm. (Tickets and booking — essential — on 0982 74406).

**RICHMOND FELLOWSHIP CRAFT FAIR:** Twenty craftsmen and women selling high quality original work in an unique Edwardian house, whose interior was described by John Betjeman as "one of the most distinguished and cheerful and thoughtfully coloured interiors in England". In aid of the international charity for community mental health. Richmond Fellowship, 8 Addison Road, London W14 (01-603 6373). Today, tomorrow, 11am-6pm. Adult £2.50, child £1.

## COLLECTING

## Fishy wishes



"I don't know what to do with these horrors," said the owner. "I've tried using them for flower arrangements, but there is something rather revolting about trying to stuff freccias down a fish's gullet."

"Strictly speaking, those aren't fish — they're dolphins," replied the valuer, "and I think they're meant to hold spills rather than flowers. Fishy subjects — mermaids, shells, sea monsters — were very popular at Belleek."

"Is that where they come from? But that's in Ireland."

"County Fermanagh, to be precise. Look — they're marked on the bases with the name on a scroll, under a picture of an Irish wolfhound sitting beside a harp, and a tower in the background — the standard mark used between 1863 and 1891. After that, another scroll inscribed 'Co Fermanagh Ireland' was added. Butterflies were a Belleek speciality, along with the little flowers on the rockwork bases, all individually modelled by hand, and no two ever quite alike. A pair like this, 12in high, offered by Christie's not

so long ago, carried a pre-sale estimate of £1,500-£1,800. "How did things like this come to be made in Ireland?"

"In the 1840s, a man called Bloomfield, who owned the Castle Caldwell estate in County Fermanagh, discovered that the land held deposits of china clay and feldspar, the material needed for making figures in Parian porcelain. He sold a load of feldspar to Kerr

"An effect obtained by glazing the hard paste porcelain, which could be made very thin and shell-like, with a lustre invented by a Frenchman called Brianchon, and made with resin, various nitrates and lavender oil. Belleek acquired the patent and produced both Parian pieces and lustred porcelain, sometimes combining the two finishes in one product. Some of their Parian figures were exceptionally large. One, called *Prisoner of Love* — a malle but demure young woman — produced in about 1870, stood over 2ft high, and the mother-of-pearl wares were unique."

"Didn't they make anything useful?"

"Baskets, hand-made by women workers using narrow strips of clay, and tea services in the form of shells — all too fragile to be functional — until 1884, when McBerney and Armstrong died, and the business was sold to some hard-headed businessmen who reduced the output of ornaments but added a range of practical tableware."

Peter Philp

## SALE SELECTIO

**PHILLIPS IN BATH:** English oils, watercolours and prints. Phillips, Son & Neale, 1 Old King Street, Bath (0225 310609). Mon, 11am.

**SOTHEBY'S IN OXFORDSHIRE:** Paintings, furniture, carpets and silver from the estate of Henry Ford II, to be sold in the grounds of Turville Grange, Turville Heath, Henley, Oxfordshire (0491 63 8624). Mon, 10.30am and 2pm.

**SOTHEBY'S IN SUSSEX:** Four days of sales Mon, 2pm: decorative and sportings prints, oils and watercolours. Tues, 10.30am: English and Continental furniture. Wed, 10.30am: silver and plate; 2pm: jewellery. Thurs, 10.30am: glass and ceramics. Summers Place, Billingshurst.

**West Sussex (040391 3933).**

**SEASONAL SPARKLERS:** More fun and infinitely more wearable than the important sort, this sale of costume jewellery includes stylish pieces from the Twenties and Thirties and period Chanel gilt chavies. Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (01-581 7611). Tues, 2pm.

**GETTY MANUSCRIPTS:** Included in this sale of Western manuscripts and miniatures are eight rare and ancient manuscripts, largely dating from before 900 AD from the J. Paul Getty Museum Collection. Also in Sotheby's

sale is part of English MS by St Aldhelm of Malmesbury on the subject of virginity, with notes in the Anglo Saxon language (estimate £800,000). Grosvenor Gallery, Bloomfield Place, off New Bond Street, London W1 (01-493 8080). Tues, 11am.

**DECORATIVE ARTS:** Prime hunting ground for collectors of Art Nouveau, Art Deco, Art and Crafts, and other decorative schools up to the present day. Several pieces of mock-ethnic furniture by Carlo Bugatti are likely to reach the £10,000 mark. Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (01-839 9060). Wed, 10.30am.

**CHRISTIE'S IN SCOTLAND:** Following the recent auction success of this so-called "Scottish Colourists", a sale of works by the leading four: Peacock, Cadell, Hunter and Fergusson, estimates £1,000-£100,000. Royal Scottish Automobile Club, 11 Blythswood Square, Glasgow G2 (041 221 3850). Thurs, 7pm.

**OLD MASTERS:** An important sale which includes many fine 14th-century panels and magnificent still lifes by Dutch masters of the 1600s. Venetian scenes by Canaletto carries an estimate of £500,000-£700,000. Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1. Fri, 11am.

Jenny Gilbert

## BANKRUPT STOCK LIQUIDATION SALE

THE FURHOUSE OF LONDON HAVE JUST COMPLETED ONE OF THE MOST SENSATIONAL PURCHASES EVER MADE IN THE BRITISH FUR INDUSTRY. THE PURCHASE INCLUDES THE ENTIRE BANKRUPT STOCK OF ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S LARGEST RETAIL FURRIERS WHICH HAS RECENTLY GONE INTO LIQUIDATION. THE STOCK IS ONE OF THE FINEST COLLECTIONS OF LUXURY FURS TO COME ONTO THE MARKET IN THE WORLD TODAY AND COMPRISES PASTEL, RANCH AND FEMALE MINK JACKETS AND COATS, BLUE, RED & SILVER FOX JACKETS AND COATS, FUR LINED RAINCOATS, STUNNING DESIGNER MINKS AND MUCH MUCH MORE. AS BANKRUPT STOCK WE ARE ABLE TO OFFER ALL THESE GARMENTS AT TRULY REMARKABLE ONCE ONLY CLEARANCE PRICES. ALL THE STOCK IS PERFECT AND FULLY GUARANTEED.

**SOME OF THE WORLD'S FINEST LUXURY FURS ARE TO GO ON SALE AT HALF THEIR USUAL RETAIL PRICE.**

The full stock list is too great to itemise but here are just a few examples:

FOX PIECE JACKETS	Normally Retailing at £295	£95
FUR LINED RAINCOATS	Normally Retailing at £595	£99
RANCH MINK PIECE COATS	Normally Retailing at £1150	£375
RED FOX PIECE COATS	Normally Retailing at £895	£295
Ltd. STRANDED DESIGNER MINK COATS	Normally Retailing at £3995	£1150

In addition to furs there is a limited selection of quality leather jackets from just £49

**THE LIQUIDATION SALE IS TAKING PLACE NOW AT THE FOLLOWING LONDON FURHOUSE LOCATIONS**

151, SLOANE STREET, Tel: 01-823 5018 **CENTRAL LONDON**  
Open Saturday 9.30am — 6pm. Sunday 9.30am — 5.30pm.

43, WEIR ROAD, Tel: 01-879 1848 **WIMBLEDON**  
Open Saturday 9am — 6pm

71, KING STREET, Tel: 01-741 3172 **HAMMERSMITH**  
Open Saturday and Sunday 10am — 6pm

**SOME ITEMS ALSO AVAILABLE AT 6, POULTRY, LONDON EC7. Tel: 01-489 6887**  
Open Mon-Sat 10am — 7pm

All items subject to availability. Normal retail prices refers to the price that this stock has been offered for sale at within the last six months but not necessarily for a period of 28 consecutive days.





## THE ARTS

## Old-time music brawl

The news this week that the BBC Symphony Orchestra's principal cellist smashed his instrument in protest at a modern work gave Richard Morrison a sense of nostalgia

The remarkable thing about Timothy Hugh's singular protest at the BBC's Maida Vale studios — he smashed his cello after taking part in the premiere of a piano concerto by an obscure German composer, apparently as a comment on the composer's own "abuse" of the instruments — is that it happened in the sober, strait-laced Eighties. Far from being avant-garde, Helmut Flammer's *Zeitzeichen-Zeitmasse* appears to have been a return to the zany happenings of the late Sixties.

Twenty years ago, no self-respecting composer would have dreamed of writing a piece without asking the violinists to bash their precious fiddles against the music stands, or the trombonists to shout mystical words about magic mushrooms through their instruments.

Flammer's work asks for a grand piano to be "prepared" with bits of string — in fact, 1988 marks the 50th anniversary of that historic moment when the American composer John Cage first wrote a work for a piano prepared with nuts, screws, rubbers and splinters of wood. So nothing too revolutionary there.

Nor is there anything new about orchestras protesting about "un-

musical" new music. Schubert's great C Major Symphony was

declared unplayable by his contemporaries, and at various stages in its distinguished history the Vienna Philharmonic has refused to play music by those well-known avant-gardists Bruckner and Mahler.

Nowadays, however, there is little new music written which orchestral players can get steamed

up about. After all, not even rock bands smash up their instruments in the late Eighties — well, not if their members are under 45. In the concert hall and opera house the spirit of our age is typified by Philip Glass's soporific and repetitive pieces, in which orchestral players, far from being asked to enact physical violence on their instruments, are generally confined to playing stultifying arpeggios for hundreds of bars at a time. The only psychological damage they might sustain in a Glass work, one feels, would be death through inertia.

So reading about Herr Flammer's composition, and Timothy Hugh's protest to it, seems a little like watching old news bulletins about the 1968 student riots. And the BBC management's reaction — making Hugh the subject of disciplinary proceedings — seems too po-faced. If a musician cannot smash up his own instrument, after being deeply moved by a

new music is that for every masterpiece that is discovered in the process, there are likely to be a hundred Flammers. But, to adapt a legal maxim, better to wade through a hundred Flammers than that one masterpiece should go unheard.

British orchestral players are

generally rather well-behaved, on

the surface. The

grand gesture of the

mass walk-out is

more of an Italian

orchestral speciality,

and the best slanging

matches between

players and conduc-

tors happen in the

rehearsal halls of

New York, where the

insults are said to be

of a very high level of

creativity.

But when it comes to per-

formance, British orchestral players

nearly always display a sanguine

professionalism. The one certain

way of angering them is to require

them to do something which they

feel might damage their in-

struments — and Herr Flammer

seems to have done just that.

test whether the conductor is a musician or a poseur. Someone like Pierre Boulez, who conducted the BBC SO in the Seventies through some of the most complex scores ever written, would pride himself on being able to spot a single wrong note in Schoenberg at 100 yards' distance, probably while simultaneously completing *The Times* crossword.

If the composer himself is

present, that adds a new and

exciting dimension to the game

(especially if, as seems to have

been the case at Maida Vale, the

composer is a friend of the

conductor). As one former BBC

brass player once said to me: "If

[composer X] couldn't tell that the

horns were playing Humpty

Dumpty in the middle of his own

music, what sort of composer is

he?"

Another favourite device is the

ostensibly diligent, but actually

deliberately anarchic, question to

the composer in rehearsal, such as:

"Excuse me, but in the 49th bar

after H, my third quaver is an E.

Shouldn't it be E flat?"

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## ENTERTAINMENTS

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## THE SOUTH BANK CENTRE

REPLACES: DR. BOULANGER'S OFFICE. The South Bank Centre is a major cultural and entertainment complex in London. It features a variety of events, including concerts, exhibitions, and performances. The centre is located in the heart of London, near the River Thames, and is easily accessible by public transport.

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## ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

**TONIGHT at 7.30 pm**  
**BERLIOZ/MESSIAEN**  
A series of five concerts by the  
**BBC Symphony Orchestra**  
Conductor: **DAVID AHERTON**  
**FELICITY PALMER** **PHILIP LANGRIDGE**  
**STEPHEN ROBERTS** **NOBUOKO IMAI**

MESSIAEN: L'Accroissement du Temps  
BERLIOZ: Harold in Italy  
(12, 13, 14, 15, 16 Dec. 7.30 pm. Box Office: 01-481 8800)

## GOLDSMITH'S CHORAL UNION

## MESSIAH

See South Bank panel for details

## WIGMORE HALL

34 Wigmore Street, London W1M 0AE  
Box Office: 01-481 2141. Mailing list: 01-481 2141

## JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS IN THE BARBICAN HALL

Images de France: Part II  
Aspects of the Arts  
Infance Today  
BBC Boulez Series 15-19 January  
The Largest Ever Retrospective of  
the Leading French Composer  
PIERRE BOULEZ  
With Pierre Boulez, BBC Symphony Orchestra,  
Ensemble InterContemporain, Peter Eotvos.

## CECILE OUSSET PIANO RECITALS

Chopin, Debussy, Ravel and Dutilleul  
11 January, 22 January and 29 January

## LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

STANISLAW SKROWCZEWSKI  
ARLEEN AUGER  
Berlioz's 'Symphonie Fantastique' 29 January

## LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

RESIDENT AT THE BARBICAN  
CONCERTS WITH:

John Georgiadis/Viennese Evening 1 Jan  
Sir Colin Davis/Mahler Symphony No.1 5 Jan  
Richard Hickox/Off's 'Carmina Burana' 8 Jan  
Lorin Maazel/Mozart and Mahler 22 Jan  
Jun-ichi Hiroaki and Barry Douglas 26 Jan

OTHER CONCERTS INCLUDE:  
Music and Dance from the Ballet  
The Chamber Orchestra of Europe/  
Andras Schiff 13 Jan  
ECO/Sir Colin Davis/Kyung-Wha Chung 25 Jan  
Inti Ilamini/John Williams/Paco Pena 27 Jan

ALSO THIS MONTH:  
Puccini's 'La Bohème'  
Luigi Comencini's new film version with Barbara  
Hendricks and Luca Canonici, and the  
voice of Jose Carreras  
Showing in the Barbican Cinema  
26 December - 24 January

BOOKING OPENS TODAY  
Phone Box Office 01 638 8891  
NOW FOR FREE January Diary and  
bookings. 10am-8pm every day

## THE CITY OF LONDON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

ROSSINI: Overture to 'The Barber of Seville'  
MENDELSSOHN: 'Italian' Symphony  
7.30pm Friday December 9th  
St George's Church, Tavistock Square, London W1  
Tickets: £3-10 on the door or phone 01-379 6122

## EVENTS

LONDON ORCHESTRAL PRIZE  
Puccini, W. 1-25 Dec. Daily  
1.15, 2.15, 7.30, 9.15, 11.15  
Box Office: 01-481 8800

## THEATRES

ALBERT 01-481 1110 or 01-481 1111  
379 4444 (Mon-Fri) 379 7111 (Sat-Sun)  
240 7200 (Mon-Fri) 240 7111 (Sat-Sun)

## OPERA &amp; BALLET

COLLEGE 01-481 3161 or 01-481 3162  
240 7200 (Mon-Fri) 240 7111 (Sat-Sun)  
Box Office: 01-481 8800

## LONDON MOZART PLAYERS

Conductor: **John Wilson**  
Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 23  
Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 23  
Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 23  
Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 23

## SHOSTAKOVICH MUSIC FROM THE FLAMES

THE LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
Mstislav Rostropovich, conductor  
THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER 7.45PM  
Symphony No 15  
Symphony No 12  
The 12th Symphony movements relate directly to  
events in Soviet history: Lenin waiting as the  
revolution approached; the shelling of the cruiser  
which started the revolution; the finale,  
'The Dawn of Humanity'.  
Seat Prices: £18.50, £15.50, £12.50, £10, £7  
BARBICAN BOX OFFICE 01-638 8891

## BARBICAN

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## THE MUSIC OF ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

Starting with **MARTIN WARR** and **MICHAEL BALL**  
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LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA  
Conductor: **PHILIP SIMMS**

## JOHN WILLIAMS CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

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James Williams plays music by Mozart, Haydn and Beethoven  
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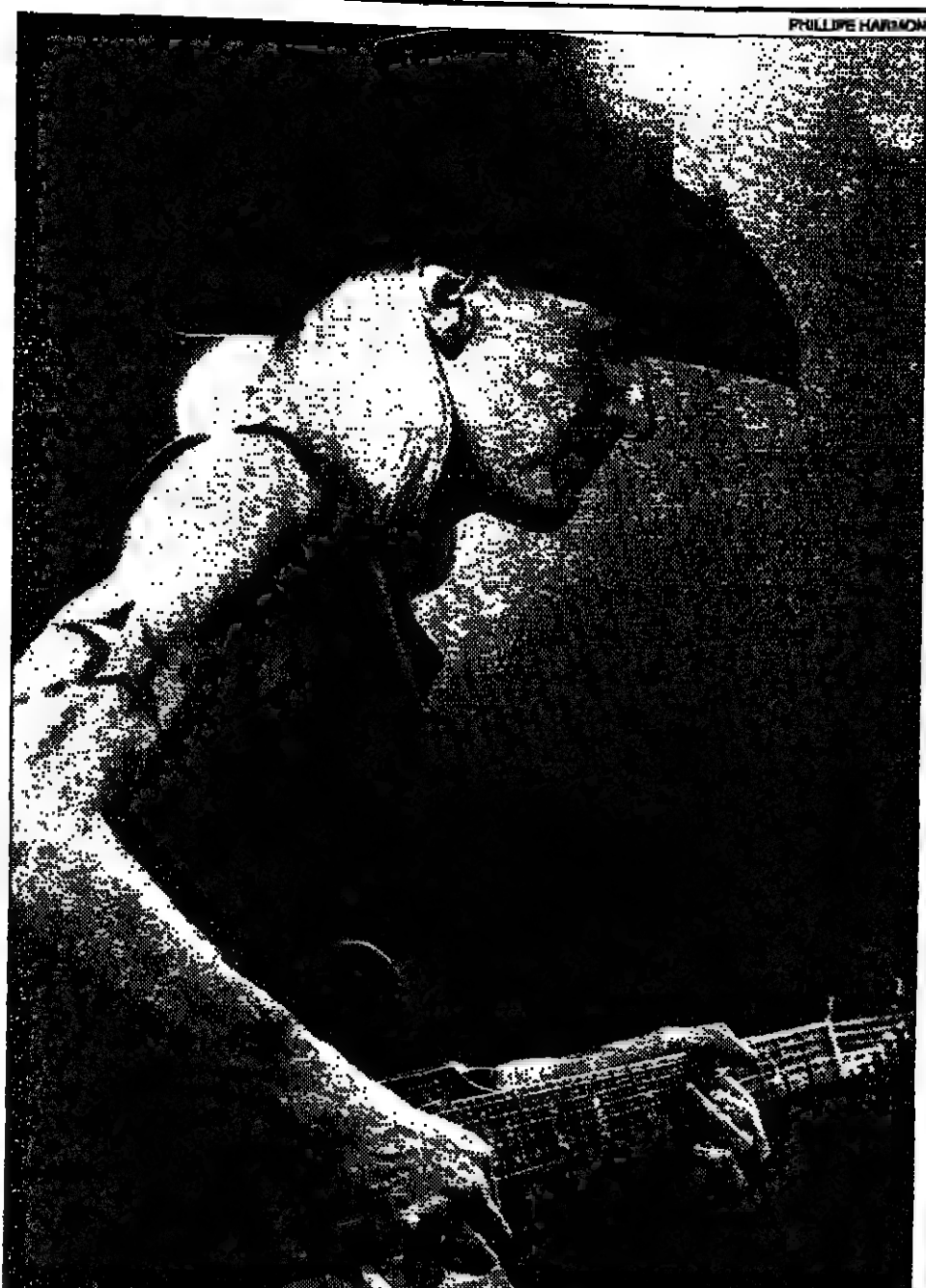
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## RECORDS

## A refreshing Winter



Raw sound: Winter communicates a gut-level exuberance in both his playing and singing.

A dusty desert road in the American south. A 1947 Panhandle Harley Davidson sits outside a cafe in the baking morning heat. A sweating old man goes in expecting a quiet breakfast but is confronted instead by a hunky blond youth with no trousers on and a foursquare blast of the jackhammering riff of Muddy Waters' "Mannish Boy".

What a stylish advertisement. Interestingly, the soundtrack was not the original version of the Waters classic, but one of a series of re-recordings which the father of the electric blues undertook in 1977 under the guidance of Johnny Winter. For it was Winter who was responsible for revitalizing the ailing Waters' fortunes in the twilight of his career, securing him a recording contract, producing and playing on his records, and even touring in the great man's band. Of the generation of white, high-voltage blues guitarists who won their wings in the Sixties, there are few who have done their homework as thoroughly as Johnny Winter.

Sadly, Waters is no longer with us, and most people's reaction to a mention of Johnny Winter is to wonder when the thin, squint-eyed albino from Texas died too. Indeed, as long ago as 1973, Winter felt compelled to release an album entitled *Still Alive And Well*, which was only partly successful in quelling rumours of his demise.

Not only is Winter still around, but with *The Winter*

Of '88 he has turned out his best album for more than a decade. Furthermore, in a week that saw a flurry of guitar-playing activity including the debut of the Canadian phenomenon Jeff Healey, British tours by Rory Gallagher and Jimmy Page, and even the exhumation of musicians such as Leslie West, Alvin Lee, Robby Krieger and Randy California on Miles Copeland's "Night of the Guitar" shows, it might even be that for once in his life Winter's timing is good. On the other hand, the choice of title leaves only four weeks before the album is relegated to the status of one of last year's things.

The quality which Winter has always possessed in abundance is the ability to communicate a raw, gut-level exuberance both in his playing and especially in his big, devil-may-care singing voice. "I make my living feeling rotten, but I feel good when I play the blues," he roars on "World of Contradictions", a slow, delta blues which is the only song here written by Winter.

Unfortunately, in recent years he has been lazy and defensive in his choice of material. Like many of the performers who built careers on the musical and spiritual values of the Sixties, he emerged battered and alienated from the music business of the late Seventies. For most of the Eighties he has taken refuge in the purist bunker, turning out a series of independent-label albums of

## ROCK

Johnny Winter: *The Winter Of '88* (MCA MCF 3436)  
Michael Katon: *Proud To Be Loud!* (Loop LOP 503)

variable quality, comprised entirely of predictable, straight-ahead, 12-bar blues.

But now there is evidence of fresh thought and a major contract, to boot. The recruitment of the producer Terry Manning (the engineer who produced most of ZZ Top's albums to all but name) probably has a lot to do with it. So, too, has the impetus of the Robert Cray revolution. In

**'Few high-voltage blues guitarists have done their homework as thoroughly as Johnny Winter'**

particular a track called "Rain", written by one Dan Daley, has a deliciously soulful, sub-Cray feel to it, although the fat, swirling guitar sound that dominates the album is still firmly rooted in post-Hendrix acid-rock.

Elmore James' "Stranger Blues" is introduced to an exotic rumba rhythm, courtesy of the drummer Tom Compton, and draws forth an awesome display of slide guitar playing from Winter. As

the number picks up momentum, the metal of the slide cuts across the top strings with a sound like that of a locomotive's wheels slicing across steel rails, while fuel is shovelled on to the engine room furnace in the shape of Compton's impeccably dropped tom tom beats.

A similarly inspired slide guitar part greases the Bo Diddley-like "Lightning", and there is something supremely exhilarating about the way in which Winter frets the sequences in the jazzy 9th-chord boogie "Ain't That Just Like a Woman", before shooting off volleys of notes which illuminate the song like bursts of tracer fire carving up the sky.

The album is not without its faults. The lyrics are of the old blues school, and as such have a tendency to sound acceptable only when they are familiar from previous incarnations. (What, for instance, would one make of the violently misogynous storyline of "Hey Joe" if it were disseminated for the first time today?) Thus, ideological niceties aside, when Winter sings the old lines: "You can buy a woman clothes/Give her money on the side/No matter what you do/She'll never be satisfied/Ain't that just like a woman?" it sounds, if nothing else, faintly primitive.

The album cover features a singularly offputting close-up of one of Winter's proliferating collection of garish tattoos, and in many ways he is no closer to being clued-up to the fashionable mores of the mod-

ern world than is my great aunt Betty. The irony is that given the retrospectively-obscured times in which we live, if Winter were to burst on to the scene as a new, young artist playing precisely this sort of thing, he would meet few obstacles on the road to widespread success.

Witness the blues guitarist from Michigan, Michael Katon, who is no spring chicken, but whose name has not been stamped with the sell-by date of a previous era. With the release of his second album, intently titled *Proud To Be Loud!*, he has started to win cover features in the specialist music Press and is attracting good notices on his current tour (he appears tonight at The Venue, Cardiff).

While many years of playing the roadhouse bars in America has honed Katon's technique to a formidable edge, the experience has not inspired him to come up with so much as a single original phrase, nor anything more than the most standard of variations on the boogie rhythms and overloaded Stratocaster sounds that comprise the increasingly debased lingua franca of white blues guitarists the world over. There are high-energy dashes of Robin Trower ("Boogie Whip"), Billy Gibbons ("Love Stepped in My Way") and even, on "Burn Me (With Electricity)", a fair imitation of Johnny Winter's whiplash slide guitar style.

David Sinclair

## King of the harmonica

## JAZZ

Toots Thielemans: *Only Trust Your Heart* (Concord Jazz CJ-355)

Dollar Brand: *Tintinyana* (Kaz CD 103)

Dollar Brand: *Blues for a Hip King* (Kaz CD 104)

Without knowing it, you hear Jean Baptiste "Toots" Thielemans everywhere, from *Sesame Street* to after-shave ads. The 66-year-old Belgian, resident in the United States since the early 1950s, has the market in hip harmonica-playing sewn up. "When I made a jingle for Old Spice," he is quoted as saying in the sleeve note to *Only Trust Your Heart*, "it only took two hours' work and it paid my rent for a year."

His latest album confirms that Thielemans, who was inspired as a boy by Django Reinhardt and befriended as a young man by Charlie Parker, is without doubt the finest jazz harmonica-player of all time. How many others not only would begin a recital with a reading of Wayne Shorter's typically off-centre tune "Speak No Evil", but could produce a version to rival the composer's original? If you have never heard Thielemans before, then this track alone will be enough to dispel any preconception that his use of the mouth-organ is a novelty.

First one notices his sound, which is solid and mature and surprisingly rich for such a puny horn. Next the sinuous grace of his phrasing makes itself apparent; his delivery may be legato, but every note hums with rhythmic vitality. Last comes the matter of his sumptuous lyrical imagination, which has a wonderful

way of glancing off the chords at unexpected angles, then turning joyful cartwheels around the melody.

He follows up his adventurous choice of the Shorter piece with versions of Thad Jones's beautifully constructed "Three and One" and a clever arrangement of one of Thelonious Monk's evocative railway portraits, "Little Rote Tootle". Benny Carter's "Only Trust Your Heart" elicits a dazzling display of the aforementioned cartwheels, while "Hello, Young Lovers" and "We'll Be Together Again" encourage his flair for belatedly, the former in particular exploiting the natural never-ending-with-a-Strand plaintiveness of his chosen instrument.

Particular admiration must be reserved for his rhythm section. The pianist Fred Hersch, the alternating bassists Marc Johnson and Harvie Swartz and the drummer Joey

Baron provide Thielemans with the sort of stimulus and cushion that a soloist must dream about. Hersch's lovely "Sarabande" is the basis for a fine harmonica-piano duet, and his "Rain Waltz" provides further confirmation of his compositional ability.

Baron, who was seen in London a few weeks ago applying his sticks to the post-modernist punk-jazz of John Zorn's group Naked City, here turns in a polished mainstream-modern performance, making an important contribution to an album that deserves an audience beyond harmonica fetishists and curiosity-seekers.

Two albums on the Kaz label continue a series devoted to recordings made by the South African pianist Dollar Brand in his native country during the 1970s, with a variety of bands featuring

both local and American musicians.

Blues for a Hip King consists of shortish pieces, including versions of Monk's "Misterioso" and "Blue Monk", plus a Monkish trio version of "Just You, Just Me" on which the drummer Makaya Ntshoko produces a very fair impersonation of the young Art Blakey. The best surprise is the poised trumpet playing of the late Blue Mitchell on a 1976 sextet recording called "Tsakwe - Here Comes The Postman".

Thielemans, in his companion volume, benefits from long treatments of two irresistible staples of Brand's repertoire: "Bra Joe from Kilmarnock", featuring Mitchell and the tenor saxophonist Harold Land, and "Soweto Is Where It's At", a showcase for the skills of the saxophonist Barney Rachabane, Duke Makase and Basil Coetzee in particular.

These recordings do not have the benefit of the highest recording quality; nor was Brand always presented with the best possible piano on which to display his unique blend of jazz, dance tunes and hymns. Like Monk, though, more often than not he finds a way of making such seeming hindrances actually enhance the already remarkable physical and emotional strength of his music.

Richard Williams

## An orchestra that shines

## CLASSICAL

Hindemith: *Mathis der Maler* Symphony, Trauermusik, Symphonie Metamorphosis, San Francisco SO/Blomstedt, Decca 421 523-2  
Nielsen: *Symphonies nos. 4-6*, San Francisco SO/Blomstedt, Decca 421 524-2

The confidence that the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra has achieved under Herbert Blomstedt glows and bounds from its new Hindemith and Nielsen records.

Both are done to dazzle, but Blomstedt's steadiness ensures that the spectacle is rooted in purpose, and the resulting mix of showiness and symphonism is entirely appropriate to these works, even if both composers come out sounding a bit like Aaron Copland or William Schuman.

The American accent is maybe right for Hindemith's symphony out of Weber, which was written when he was an exile in the United States; certainly this performance convinces with its distinctively American sorts of nostalgia and buoyancy.

The other symphony, out of

the opera *Mathis der Maler*, might perhaps have been mellower: it can so easily sound like film music. Then between these major pieces comes a rarity, the *Trauermusik*, which Hindemith apparently wrote in a day for himself to play at a BBC concert the day after the death of King George V.

If one can feel more uniformly positive about the Nielsen programme, that is partly because the pieces as well as the performances are on a more even level of excellence. Blomstedt learned his Nielsen as conductor of the Danish Radio Symphony Orchestra, and he directs these two mighty symphonies with immense will, drive and authority - qualities which the music shares and invites.

The players give him and the composer everything, living up to the requirements of implacability in their polished solo contributions as well as in their hard, strong tutti: it is the precision of the orchestral sound, taut with energy like cleaved blocks of crystal, that so distinguishes these recordings.

Paul Griffiths



Paul Hindemith: displaying an American nostalgia

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## BOOKS

# Life as a jumble sale

Victoria Glendinning on an earlier materialist age

In the reign of Queen Victoria, Robert Louis Stevenson wrote: "The world is so full of a number of things, I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings." There seemed to be more things in the world than ever before, and a good many of them were gathered together under the massive glass roof of the Crystal Palace for the Great Exhibition of 1851.

Asa Briggs' book is a survey of the different kinds of things that the Victorians designed, invented, named, made, advertised, bought, sold, listed, counted, and collected; things that were coveted, displayed, disregarded, thrown away. It was the age not only of the mass market but of mass production and of reproduction — moulds, photography, the phonograph. There were not just things but ranges of things — not just umbrellas stands, for example, but all sorts of umbrella stands.

*Victorian Things* completes a trilogy that began with *Victorian People* (1954) and *Victorian Cities* (1963), so to some extent Lord Briggs is using up the scraps from the cutting-room floor, as well as drawing on specialized crafts books rarely studied by historians. He records an era which had a mania for recording itself: public statues, private museums, catalogues, and the Public Record Office are all Victorian things, and as soon as postage stamps were in common use, stamp collecting began.

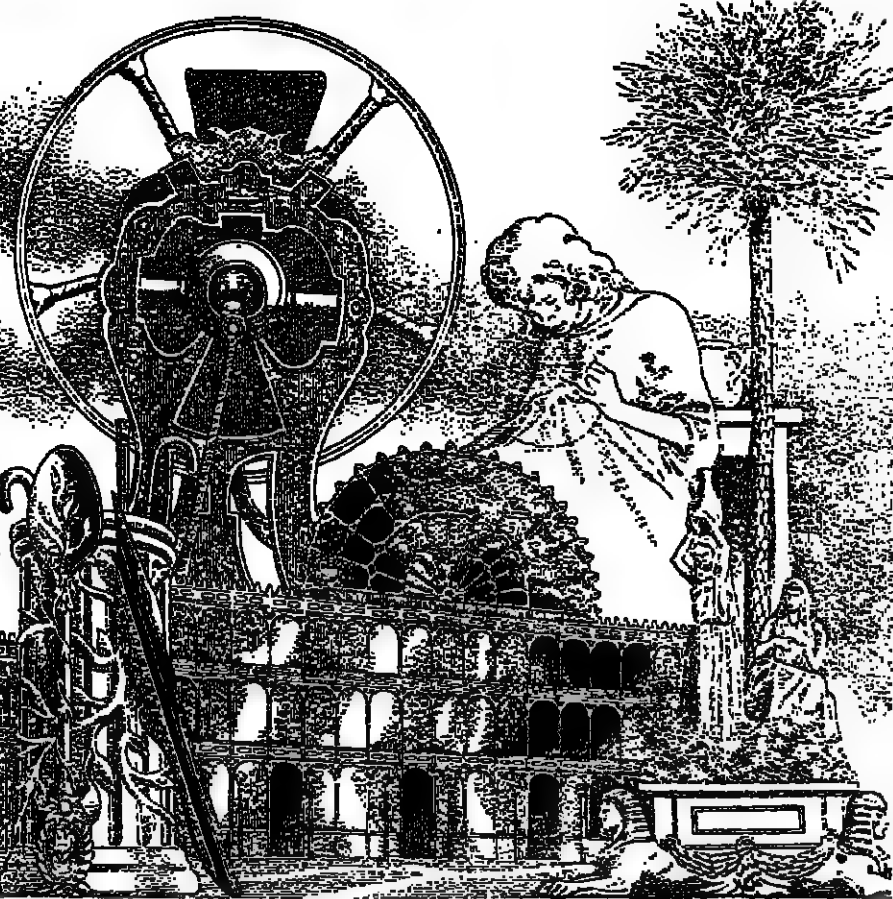
There were so many things. That is the trouble. Lord Briggs has the same problem as the people who organized the Great Exhibition. The Prince Consort wanted to categorize all the farm machinery, turbine engines, fire-screens, dinner sets, gingerbread elephants, rolls of wallpaper, table-lights, and knitting-machines, not to mention the garden bench carved from coal,

the papier mâché piano and the "bachelor's shirt of peculiar construction, without buttons", according to some meaningful philosophical principle. Philosophy, as Lord Briggs remarks, has always been puzzled by the slippery word "thing".

Just as the Prince Consort's colleagues shied away from the philosophical approach in favour of a common-sense, practical kind of classification, so Lord Briggs, in his distaste for making elaborate connections between things, or creating unreal categories, steers clear of almost all theorizing. His aim is to reconstruct "the intelligible universe", or that part of it which is retrievable; in 1900 only 17 per cent of the population left enough property to be worth recording. He writes about processes as well as products, resources as well as artefacts. He can't fit everything in, since most Victorian things died at home, we might have had something about

sick-room equipment — and coffins. The universe, seen as a jumble sale, remains unintelligible, but along the way there are flashes of illuminating information. It becomes obvious, for example, why there are so many fogs, phantoms and lost children in Victorian novels. No one could see properly. Spectacles were not made to an individual prescription. If you were poor you bought a likely pair off a market stall, and if you were rich you sent off for a selection to choose from, stating your age, which was the only relevant variable. Science and art, and science and magic, had not yet parted company.

Steel pen-nibs, instead of quills, were available from the 1830s; safety pins, one of the great simple inventions, came in 1849; but matches, in Herbert Spencer's view, were "the great boon to mankind in the 19th century". Millions of poor people subsisted



by making and selling matches. But the matchmakers died of "phosby jaw" — phosphorus necrosis — and it was sweated labour. Fifty million sewing needles a week were made in Redditch alone in the mid-century; the needle-makers suffered from "grinder's asthma", but refused to wear protective masks. The maker of Victorian things, on the evidence of this book, was always conservative, resenting any suggestion that he should change his habits; and the maker of Victorian things threatens to take over, in Lord Briggs' narrative, from the things themselves.

At the time, it was the things that threatened to take over. Moralists warned against rampant materialism. There was a steady stream of books and manuals instructing people how to live with all the new things they acquired — "hints" on household management, interior decoration, etiquette. By the end of the Queen's reign, those objects

included the telegraph, the telephone, gas-cookers ("kitcheners"), electric light bulbs, bicycles and motor cars.

There are so many unasked, unanswered questions. Why were Tory politicians and Nonconformist divines immortalized on Staffordshire pottery figures, but not Whigs or Church of England clergymen? Why was Dickens's face woven into a silk book-marker, but not Tennyson's? Why did previously colourful men's clothes "go dark" in the middle of the century, and remain black, brown, and grey thenceforth? Why did drawers come into use for middle-class women at about the same time? (Working women were knickerless until the 1880s.) Why did everyone — even beggars — still wear hats, even though in 1845 the hat had been picked out as "one of the strangest vestigial anomalies of the nineteenth century"? Charles Lamb wrote of "things in book's clothing". *Victorian Things*, fascinating though it is, is that kind of thing.

## Sing a song from the index

Should you ever need to know the difference between Christ from the Post Office and Lili from the Ballet then Gänzl's *Book of the Musical Theatre*, by Kurt Gänzl and Andrew Lamb (The Bodley Head, £30) is one of the few reference works around that will provide an immediate answer. Christ makes her entrance in Zeller's *Der Vogelhändler*, an operetta which still turns up quite regularly in Austria, telling us in "Ich bin die Christel" that not everyone gets a kiss with the mail.

Lili, in Leo Fall's *Die Rose von Stambul*, may claim to be a dancer in "Ich bin die Lili vom Ballett", but is given away by a bristling moustache.

There they are, side by side in the massive index of song titles, almost 60 pages of them, at the end of a guide to operetta that is as comprehensive as could ever be hoped for. It is the successor to Mark Lubbock's *The Complete Book of Light Opera*, which has been difficult to track down these many years. But Gänzl, with almost half as many pages again as Lubbock, takes on new areas such as recordings and those song titles.

In 1964 Brigid Brophy upset some of the musical world with *Mozart the Dramatist*. It was considered a mite sacrilegious to put the da Ponte operas plus *The Magic Flute* in a literary and often a Freudian context. Indeed there was tut-tutting about a non-musician tackling Mozart at all. But others recognized that Miss Brophy had produced some ideas which were far more interesting than textual squabbling.

For the new edition, Mozart *The Dramatist*, *The Value of his Operas to Him, to his Age, and to Us* (Libris, £17.50), Miss Brophy

has added a preface dealing with *Idomeneo* and *La clemenza di Tito*, works none too familiar in the early Sixties. Here she is back with her old themes of the influence of the Freemasons and Mozart's relationship with his father, Leopold.

Less worthwhile — or necessary — is an appendix attacking the views of a Professor Chailley on *The Flute*. In between, those Sixties fireworks still fizz.

Verdians could well be enticed to shell out the £65 needed for Hans Busch's massive assemblage of the letters and documents concerning *Otello* and the revised version of *Simon Boccanegra* (Oxford, two vols, £65). As might be expected from the son of Fritz Busch, who did much to encourage Glyndebourne into Verdi, the scholarship is scrupulous. Vol II devotes close on 200 pages to the production book of *Otello*, including the most detailed placement of everything and everybody on stage.

Alternatively, turn for relief to *The Music Lover's Literary Companion*, compiled by Dannie and Joan Abse (Robson Books, £14.95). It contains some tasty pages from both musicians and non-musicians, with some pretty juxtaposition: Berlioz whining (as he all too often did) in a letter to Franz Liszt is followed by a Roald Dahl short story about a bonfire, a cat, and Franz Liszt. And there is Mark Twain, the journalist, at Bayreuth writing that "in this remote village... it is always Sunday." A few pages earlier Tolstoy rubbishes *Siegfried*, complaining that it would perplex the noble Russian peasant. Unsound chap musically, Tolstoy, once he got past the Kreutzer Sonata.

John Higgins

## On the district line

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

### FICTION

*A Sport of Nature*, by Nadine Gordimer (Penguin, £4.99) Forty years of South African experience, as lively, sexy white girl is transformed into political activist, intent on returning the whole African continent to the rule of Africans.

*Chinese Whispers*, by Maurice Leitch (Ara, £2.50) Clever little novella as group in mental hospital play the spooky game revealing how thin the line between sanity and madness.

*Death to the Landlords*, by Ellis Peters (Headline, £2.99) The creator of Brother Cadfael in her other turban, unravelling deadly Indian rope trick of hatred and murder in contemporary India.

*Nights at the Alexandria*, by William Trevor (Ara, £2.50) Nostalgic but earthy novella of wartime in provincial Ireland, a beautiful German woman, and the cinema built in her honour.

*The Lively Dead*, by Peter Dickinson (Arrow, £2.50) Something smells fishy in Notting Hill, and it is not just the tourists down the Portobello Road, but a body in the garden, blackmail, infestation of spies, and maybe murder.

*Twenty under Thirty*, edited by Debra Spark (Penguin, £4.99) Best stories by the rising generation of America's new young writers.

**POETRY**  
*War Music*, by Christopher Logue (Faber, £4.95) Very free version of the *Patrocleia*, Books 16 to 19 of the Iliad, in

### PAPERBACKS

which Patroclus is killed, and the great wheel of fate turns; the genuine hard stuff that will give you goose pimples.

### NON-FICTION

*Metroland*, introduction by Oliver Green (Ockfaste, £5.95) The original guide to the country districts served by the



Metropolitan Line, published in 1932. Oh my Rayners Lane and my Ruislip long ago.

*The Golden Oriole*, by Raleigh Trevelyan (Oxford, £5.95) Travel book, memoir, and history, recounting five journeys to India, mixing recollections of life there 50 years ago, and accounts of his famous Raj ancestors.

*Erasmus of Christendom*, by Roland Bainton (Lion, £5.95)

Biography in which blessed Erasmus is allowed to speak for himself, and in speaking, reveals his agreeable self.

*Greek Architecture*, by Roland Martin, and *Roman Architecture*, by John B. Ward-Perkins (Faber, £14.95 each) History of World Architecture series, heavily illustrated in colour and black-and-white.

*S.J. Perelman*, by Dorothy Herrmann (Macmillan, £7.95) The funny man who was always laughing in the dark, who took *The Times* wherever he was in the world as a sovereign source of farce, and whose jokes were more fun than his life.

*The Life of Monsieur de Molière*, by Mikhail Bulgakov, translated by Mirra Ginsburg (Oxford, £5.95) The greatest Russian satirist of our century on the greatest French satirist of the 17th century, historically accurate, but full of imaginative fellow professional's leaps and insights.

*Voices from Twentieth-Century Africa*, Griots and Towncriers, edited by Chinweizu (Faber, £5.95) Anthology of African literature, with ever-handed balance between popular and academic, oral and written, folk and elite, translations from African languages and literature composed in the languages of Africa's alien conquerors.

*Who Killed Hawesbury*, by Paul Foot (Penguin, £4.99) An investigation into the notorious A6 murder, leaving no doubt that there was a massive and dreadful miscarriage of justice.

Gardening books were reviewed by Ruth Stungo last Saturday

## DISORDERLY CONDUCT



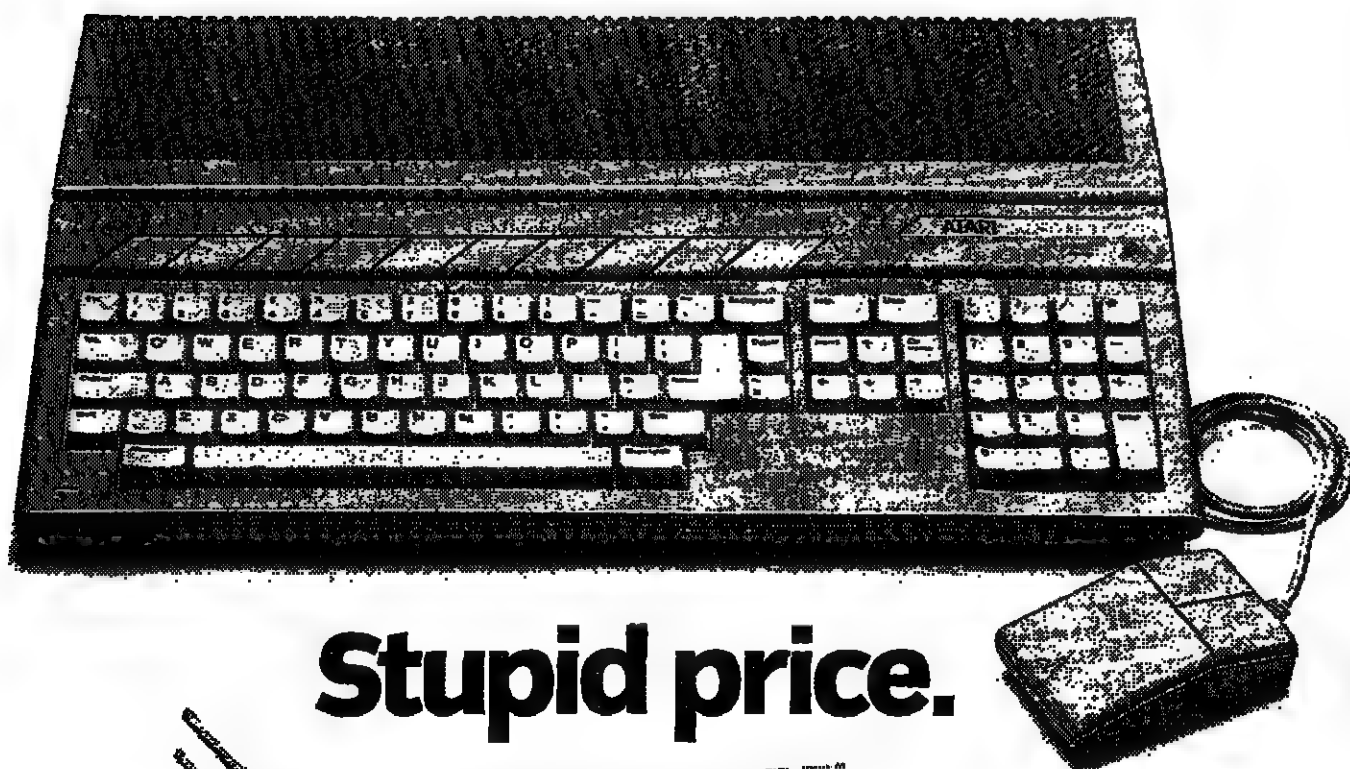
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## EATING OUT

## Suburban style war heroes

Jonathan Meades makes his way to Muzak-land and finds that a perfect torpedo potato dish is being cooked in north London



Nichol's appears to have been born with certain disadvantages. It occupies the site of a less commendable restaurant which I reviewed two and a half years ago and which never made much of an impression.

This site is 100 yards from South Hampstead railway station, which serves no such area because no such area exists. It is in a cheapish looking parade of shops, car showrooms and other restaurants of questionable distinction. Worst of all, it displays a menu which promises the sort of off-the-peg, vaguely nouvelle cuisine which can be found in most affluent inner London suburbs: Notting Hill, Putney, Battersea, Islington. Or so I thought. As it turns out, Nichol's is most commendable and manifests no fault suggested by its menu which, in contrast with its cooking, is twice as prolix.

Curtain descriptions, not printed in an italic face, would make a lot of difference. Maybe this is merely a counsel of typographical prejudice, but maybe not — for the sort of place that Nichol's isn't habitually presents itself in just the way that Nichol's does. The genteel is an idiom that restaurants should do their utmost to avoid — leave it to maquillage consultants, toupee-mongers, dolly vendors and the like.

They should also do their utmost to avoid music, let alone Muzak or Mantovani — who is on tap here. Apart from the fact that "La Vie en Rose" is an old bore, it unwittingly defines the sort of place in which it is played.

I cannot believe that the eponymous couple who own Nichol's (David Nichol cooks, Susan Nichol organizes front of house) are such enthusiastic gerontophiles as to wish to aggravate aurally anyone under the age of 60; but music has a limiting effect on the breadth of clientele, and this place certainly deserves a larger clientele than that which it got the night I was there.

The sort of place that Nichol's isn't would consider Nichol's underdressed: where are the flounces, the pleated curtains, the seriously ruched

bits, the antiquated mirrors, the evident lifts from the full-frontal fabric shots in *House and Garden*? All you get here is dark turquoise banquettes, peach walls with decorative trim and a tree in a pot. It is not austere, but on the other hand it is not likely to prompt nightmares of printed plants which come to life and constrict you with their tentacles. Likewise the cooking is unlikely to prompt the sort of resentment that is the habitual aftertaste of suburban places on this scale. The waiter may be done up in a fancy outfit, the kitchen may be keen on *feillettes* and mousses and warm salads, but if they are done well, so what?

As a matter of fact the only disappointing dish in an otherwise fine meal was a crab

mousse that someone had assaulted with lemon juice. The one *feilleté* was well-made or well-bought and its filling of lamb kidneys and lamb sweetbreads was bound with a well-judged and pungently meaty sauce.

More offal: lamb's tongues are served on rice with another well-judged sauce, this time of grain mustard; the garnish of a tomato sculpted into something or other is redundant — the dish tastes

good and looks handsome without this feature.

Haddock, smoked and salty, is served as part of a warm salad with radicchio, coriander, tomatoes and a fine chive butter sauce; the other component of this dish is potato which has, presumably, been lightly fried and, perhaps, soaked in milk prior to frying — very good potatoes, but not a patch on the potatoes that are served as an accompaniment to a main course. These

are torpedo shaped and look like chic latkes or particularly intensely fried croquettes; the outside is crisp, the insides are pure purée. They require perfect timing, total confidence and a dose of admirable trickery. This dish wins this year's AUSA Craig Award: a week on the island of that name and a ton of the homonymic spoils.

The sauce with a salmon fillet is also a contender for a prize (a perfectly gauged cream and wine thing with an acidic splash of vinegar), and the sweets are splendid — a chocolate "ganache" with toasted sesame seeds and a pear sorbet made with *eau de vie de poire* and served with a poached pear in a blackcurrant sauce innocent of Ribena.

Now, the wines: they are certainly adequate so far as they go — but this is a serious restaurant whose owners and whose co-chef, Gregg Lewis, are New Zealanders; given which, and given that the largest stock of Antipodean wines in Britain is to be found at Alex Findlater's, only half a mile away, the list is deficient in this area.

There is a fairly good New Zealand Cabernet Sauvignon which is certainly better value than the majority of the French stuff, and there is nothing wrong with Brown Bros Chardonnay, though it is hardly the Australian peak of this varietal. The Californian Easencia — Orange Muscat is an enterprising number to list as a pudding wine. Two could just about get away with £45 though I imagine that most people will spend more than that.

The Rotisserie also occupies a fairly dismal site and it, too, appears to conform to a suburban stereotype — that of the no man's land where "brasserie" meets "bistro". The problem with this place is that it is a book that can be judged by its cover. It is at the eastern end of Shepherd's Bush Green and overlooks a shopping centre and a covered-in pedestrian bridge, muralized to resemble an inter-city train.

The interior of the restaurant is tunnel-like and greenish. On one side there is a bar, on the other a char grill and rotisserie — the offerings of the former are to be preferred. The food included an unremarkable but perfectly OK dish of ravioli in a heavy cream and Parmesan sauce, a salad of mountain ham and arugula and distinctively stale Parmesan slivers, a lump of greasy and undercooked duck, competent chips, a slightly desiccated brochette of monkfish, a well made salad and disgusting industrial cheeses. With a bottle of Firestone Merlot '85 (the best thing about the place) two will pay £40. The service is amiable and fairly efficient, the chairs are comfortable (a fact worth remarking on because chairs in restaurants rarely are), the music is better than that at Nichol's, but still pretty awful.

## FOOD



Dried, delicious: few cooks bother to make fresh pasta

## Pasta makes it perfect

Pasta is Chinese. The authoritative source for this assertion is the 1938 movie, *The Adventures of Marco Polo*, in which the hero demands of a beady mandarin the name of some steaming, farinaceous food. "In our country we call it *spa get*," is the scrutable reply.

In fact, there are a number of nations claiming pasta in their patrimony. An accumulation of data suggests that Marco Polo did have noodles to declare when he returned to Italy in 1295, but 12th-century Arab travellers in Sicily saw people drawing little strings (or *spaghetti*, in Italian) out of flour and water paste.

Pasta unites the nations: fancy ravioli even appears on many Michelin three star menus. While no satisfactory means of debasing it into fast food has yet been found, it is nevertheless big business: in Britain 40,000 tons will be consumed and £46 million spent in this year alone.

Pasta is more widespread in the United States and Britain than it is in Italy — in English-speaking nations it is invariably served with a pungent tomato sauce, but this is only because Britain and America were inhabited by poor Italians coming from the south, who found the quickest route to the folk memory was via the olfactory organ. Tomatoes and garlic provided a shortcut.

In large areas of Italy, pasta was and is disdainful; patrician citizens of Milan and Turin prefer white meals such as *risotto*, *bollito* or *polenta*. Even in Tuscany, home of perhaps the purest and simplest Italian food, pasta dishes do not dominate the local repertoire. Spaghetti with meatballs is better known in Pittsburgh than Piacenza.

But the English and American relationship with pasta goes back a long way. When 18th-century Grand Tourists returned home with affected manners, they were known as "macaronis". At about the same moment that lasagne (a flat pasta, from the Greek *laganon*, or board, and rare in Italy) became a staple in English pubs and cold pasta

became fashionable at parties in New York and San Francisco, a mysterious new commodity — fresh pasta — came on to the market.

An earlier venture of the same marketing school had been the "Ploughman's Lunch". Fresh pasta is, quite frankly, something of a nonsense. Most proud Italian cooks can actually make *pasta fatta in casa*, but they only really do it to amuse visitors or if they have absolutely nothing else to do. Hand-rolling requires very considerable expertise but hand-rolled pasta is not what you get when you make funds available to acquire "fresh" pasta in a supermarket. You are buying something mass-produced which is certainly both different from, and inferior to, dried factory pasta.

It is best to be purist about pasta: its simplicity is deceptive and the one common piece of advice you hear in a contentious area is "never leave the kitchen". I have seen rational Italians staring with Zen concentration into boiling cauldrons measured to the last centilitre and holding their breath until the dramatic moment arrives — never too early, not too late — when the stiff *bucatini* are consumed by the water. The pasta should never be rinsed, since cold water makes it cold and hot water removes the starch so necessary for sauce adhesion (ignore all other advice).

Pasta is about detail. One manufacturer commissioned Giorgio Giugiaro, the brilliant industrial designer who created the Volkswagen Golf and the Fiat Uno, to design a new pasta. Giugiaro analysed the problem, studied the brief and prepared engineering drawings to demonstrate the special properties his new design claimed, including striations to help the sauce adhere in the absence of starch. If statistics have logic, then the true home of pasta is already the United States, where anything can happen. Soon we may all be eating "fresh" fettuccine "bake" with the next new thing.

Stephen Bayley

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## DIRECTORY

This is a changing selection of restaurants visited in recent months — managements and standards may have changed. Stars — up to a maximum of 10 — are for cooking rather than swags and chandeliers. Dishes described are included to give an indication of the cooking but may well have changed. Prices quoted are for a three-course meal with drinks for two, and are determined according to the "Wine in Rome" principle: in the case of French places, aperitifs and a bottle of modest wine; tea in the case of oriental ones; beer or lassi in the case of Indian ones and so on. J.M.

## FRENCH

**La Bastille**  
50 Greek Street, London W1  
(01-734 3300)  
★★★★★

Nicholas Blacklock is probably the greatest ally that French provincial cooking has in London. His pretty, rather formal, restaurant offers a monthly changing regional menu which frequently includes rare dishes — a poiré from Champagne, for instance, containing heart, cassoulet, pork and prairie dishes from the Loire. There are also two non-changing menus, one of dishes like duck confit and braised beef, the other of more refined dishes such as sole and oysters in buttery pastry. Impressive French regional wines and selection of *eaux de vie* and amignacs. £65.

**L'Aventure**  
3 Blenheim Terrace, London NW8  
(01-624 6232)  
★★★★★

Very French steak house. The meat, especially the ribs and the Chateaubriand, is splendid and the pommes alouettes are among the best in town. The wines are indifferent and the service is hurried. Cheesecake is better than the *croûtes*. £25.

**Chez Gerard**  
8 Charlotte Street, London W1  
(01-636 4975)  
★★★★★

Very French steak house. The meat, especially the ribs and the Chateaubriand, is splendid and the pommes alouettes are among the best in town. The wines are indifferent and the service is hurried. Cheesecake is better than the *croûtes*. £25.

**L'Herisson**  
8 High Street, Wimbledon, London SW19  
(01-947 6477)  
★★★★★

Variable bogue French joint which cannot spell its own name — it should be *le herisson*, not *her*. There are some disappointing dishes but also some worthwhile ones: veal with a chive butter sauce, John Dory with sampane. The staff are by no means untutored. The place is hung with prints and painted the colour of a squashed hedgehog. £25.

**La Rive Gauche**  
61 The Cut, London SE1  
(01-928 6645)  
★★★★★

Gaudy and rather anonymously done out. Some dishes are brilliant, some are more "modern". Rich and meat tends to be cooked with rather more care than are vegetables. Good sweets, cheeses straight from the fridge. £24.

**Turner's**  
87-89 Watton Street, London SW3  
(01-584 6711)  
★★★★★

Fleeting customers, accomplished cooking, stingy portions, and a chef-patron who spends most of his time in his immaculate whites greeting his customers. Rabbit terrine, duck pâté, well sauced braised mutton, succulently elaborated steaks, fine cheeses. Unexciting wines. £28.

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## THE TIMES COOK

## The fine art of the edible gift

Food makes an ideal Christmas present. Frances Bissell gets busy

Christmas shopping gets easier every year as catalogues thud on to the door mat from September. Food for Christmas presents is a favourite choice, and one in which every taste and price range is amply met, from a single porcelain jar of preserved ginger to a luxury hamper crammed with items you would never think of buying for yourself. Why not include a book? This year, there are several books on single subjects, such as cheese, apples, olive oil and mustards.

I like to make a few food presents, such as unusual jams and jellies, potted meats and fish, biscuits and chocolates. It is important to label them clearly and give storage instructions and an "eat by" date. Here are some ideas for food presents; the passion-fruit curd recipe can be adapted to make lemon or lime. And for you to eat while preparing all this, I give a recipe for a one-pot dish of Singapore noodles.

The following venison recipe makes about 1½lb/340g and is a good way of using up left-overs from a roast, haunch or saddle. It is a good starter served with hot toast and a little redcurrant or gooseberry jelly.

**Potted venison with juniper berries**  
 ½lb/230g cooked lean venison  
 ½lb/110g unsalted butter  
 2 tsp red vermouth  
 1 dozen crushed juniper berries  
 salt and pepper to taste  
 melted butter to seal

Trim any fat and gristle from the venison and cut into small cubes. Put into the food processor with the butter, liquid and juniper berries. Process until smooth. Season to taste and pack firmly into suitable small containers. Pour on melted butter to cover which seals the surface when it hardens. Cover, label and instruct the recipient to store in the refrigerator and eat within a week.

My recipe for potted cheese and walnuts fills two 1½lb jars or four ½lb jars, or it can be packed into ramekins. For the metric equivalent, you will need slightly increased quantities, since metric jars do not come in the exact equivalents given in conversion tables, but in 1 kilo, 500g and 250g sizes. Use one type of cheese or a mixture. The cheese should not be absolutely hard. The weights given are for trimmed weight, rinds removed.

**Potted cheese and walnuts**  
 1½lb/455g blue cheese  
 ½lb/230g Cheddar, Lancashire or Cheshire cheese  
 ½lb/110g unsalted butter  
 3oz/85g freshly shelled walnuts  
 2 tsp port  
 1 tsp brandy or grappa  
 freshly grated nutmeg

Coarsely grate the cheeses into a bowl, and mix with the softened butter. Beat together with a wooden spoon until thoroughly mixed. Put the walnuts into a bag, and crush them roughly with a

DIANA LEADSETTER



rolling pin. Stir into the soft cheese mixture and then add the port, the brandy and a little freshly grated nutmeg. Spoon the cheese mixture into smaller containers, pack it well down to avoid trapping any air in the mixture. Flatten the top. Seal and cover. It is best to allow the flavours to develop for at least five days before serving.

**Passion-fruit curd**  
 (Makes about 2½lb/900g)  
 4 or 5 large passion-fruit  
 6 size 3 egg yolks  
 ½lb/230g unsalted butter, cut into small cubes  
 ½lb/340g sugar

Cut a slice off the top of each fruit, and carefully scoop all the pulp and seeds into a saucepan. Add a

tablespoon of water and heat gently. This will loosen the pulp. Place a fine sieve over a bowl, and rub the pulp and juice through it. Discard the seeds. Lightly beat the eggs into the juice, and set the bowl over a pan of hot water, keeping it hot but not boiling. Add a little of the butter and the sugar, stirring from time to time until the sugar has dissolved. Gradually stir in the rest of the butter. Raise the heat slightly, and cook the curd gently, stirring until it thickens. Pour into small, clean, dry jars and cover. Label with the ingredients, and instruct the recipient to eat within three weeks.

**Cranberry and persimmon jam**  
 (Makes 3½-4½lb/1.60-1.80kg)  
 1½lb/455g cranberries

2½lb/900g persimmons  
 ½pt/430ml water  
 2½lb/1.10kg granulated or preserving sugar

Wash the cranberries, and put them into a saucepan. Cover with water, and cook gently until soft. Cut the persimmons into quarters and peel them. Then cut each piece into three or four pieces. If they are too ripe to peel, simply cut in half, and scoop the flesh into a basin. Meanwhile, warm the sugar, in the oven. When the cranberries are beginning to pop, stir in the persimmon flesh. Cook gently for another minute or two, then add sugar, stirring until it dissolves. Boil the mixture rapidly until setting point is reached.

Remove pan from heat, let it stand

for 15 minutes and then skim the surface. Pour the jam into spotlessly clean, dry, warm jars. Cover the surface with waxed paper discs, and then cover jars with cellophane covers, wetting them slightly to stretch them. When dry, they shrink making air-tight seals.

For Singapore-style noodles, use fresh or dried egg noodles, rice noodles, rice sticks or vermicelli, and cook them according to the directions on the packet. Drain and turn them in sunflower or groundnut oil to stop them sticking, and put to one side in a colander.

**Singapore-style noodles**  
 (Serves 4)  
 1 size 3 egg  
 2 tsp sunflower or groundnut oil

1 onion, peeled and chopped  
 2 cloves garlic, peeled and chopped  
 3-4oz/85-110g blanched bean sprouts  
 1 red and 1 green pepper, seeded and cut into narrow strips  
 ½lb/340g peeled, de-veined prawns (fresh or frozen)  
 ½lb/110g cooked roast pork, duck or chicken in small pieces  
 ½pt/140ml water or stock  
 2-3 tsp sherry or rice wine  
 2 tsp soy sauce  
 4 spring onions, trimmed and sliced  
 1½lb/680g cooked noodles

Beat the egg, and with it make a thin flat crepe-like omelette in a frying pan or wok, using a little of the oil. Turn it over and quickly cook the other side. Turn it out on to a plate, loosely roll it and cut it into thin strips. Put it to one side. Add a little more oil to the pan, and stir in the onions. Cook them for a couple of minutes without letting them brown too much, then add the garlic, bean sprouts and the peppers. Stir fry for two or three minutes before adding the prawns, and cook for a few minutes more, stirring and mixing the ingredients carefully so as not to break them up. Add the pieces of meat. Pour a kettleful of boiling water over the noodles to heat them up, drain them and add them to the frying pan with the rest of the liquid and the spring onions. Cover with a lid, raise the heat and steam-cook for a few minutes before turning on to a heated serving platter. Garnish with the strips of egg and serve immediately.

## DRINK

This year's crop of gift packs and cases is more bountiful and appealing than ever. But beware — the glitz may hide an over-the-odds price.

La Reserve, at 56 Walton Street, London SW3 (01-589 2020), may have knocked £75 off the price of Krug's glorious Grande Cuvée, selling it at £405 a case, with each bottle individually gift-packed in Krug's colours. But the £33.75 per unit price still looks expensive given that Majestic is selling it for £29.50.

And what about Cookburn's wooden presentation case containing a bottle of its 10 Years Old Tawny Port (Asda, £8.69) plus a bottle of the rather dreary 1982 Late Bot-

tled Vintage (Oddbins £7.49)? At least £5 of the £23 asked for this duo pack is for the presentation.

There are dozens of glossy gift catalogues, and some of the best ideas are to be found in that of the Wine Society, Gunners Wood Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire (0438 741177). The ubiquitous port and Stilton pack is here, at one of the cheapest prices I've seen — £13.50 for the society's vintage character port and a small jar of blue Stilton. True gastronomes may prefer the Flavour of the South case (£21), a combination of olive oil, black olives, herbs, honey nougat and wild boar pâté, all from Provence, accompanied



by three bottles of sunny southern wine. The prices include delivery; Christmas orders must be received by Wednesday.

Leading country wine merchant Lay & Wheeler, 6 Culver Street West, Colchester, Essex (0206 764446),

## Going with the good old pack

Jane MacQuitty takes the wrapping off some of the yuletide offerings

offers a short list of Christmas boxes. One of the most popular is its own excellent 1986 claret, non-vintage champagne and vintage character port trio — the Lay & Wheeler Selection — for £21.90. Local delivery is free; otherwise add £3.97 per consignment. Again

the Christmas deadline is Wednesday.

Tanners of 26 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury (0743 232400), is another good source of Christmas crackers. The case called Best Sellers from our Cellars No 2, at £39 instead of £42.57, contains three bottles



each of four different wines, including Tanners' splendid own-label claret, and my favourite Côtes du Rhône, Monsieur Ryckwaert's delicious Château du Grand Moulin. The deadline for Christmas delivery is Wednesday, and local orders or those

worth £50 or more are delivered free. Otherwise the charge is £4.50. La Vigneronne, 105 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (01-589 6113), has a tempting half-bottle Indulgence Case for £110 delivered. It offers such treats as California's 1986 Edna Valley Chardonnay, 1982 Bollinger champagne, 1960 Clos Fourtet and 1970 Imperial Gran Reserva Rioja. The deadline for Christmas delivery is next Saturday.

The place to buy your bubbly this year is Bibendum at 113 Regent's Park Road, London NW1 (01-586-9761). It has slashed the price of Louis Roederer's superb Brut

Premier from £15.81 to £13.65. The NW1 Bibendum will sell it by the mixed or single case only, but the branch at the Conran Shop, 81 Fulham Road, London SW3 sells it by the bottle.

Berkmann Wine Cellars, at 12 Brewery Road, London N7 (01-609 4711) has six different 50cl Georges Dubouche bottles from the 1987 vintage for £24.10.

Robin Yapp, The Old Brewery, Mere, Wiltshire (0747 860423), has a Party Fizz Kit at £66, a saving of £8. It contains 10 bottles of a fresh, fruity Montlouis Mousseux from the Loire, plus a bottle each of a strawberry and raspberry liqueur.

## WINE BUYS

● Paul Georg Blanc de Blancs: Unknown but not for long. This Vertus co-operative's non-vintage Blanc de Blancs boasts an elegant bouquet and rich, full-flavoured Chardonnay palate. A Christmas non-vintage champagne bargain (The Champagne House, 15 Dawson Place, London W2, £11.46).  
 ● 1987 Pinot Gris d'Alsace: Pâté and game terrines cry out for wine such as this rich, golden, perfumed Alsace white wine from leading co-op-

erative, Turckheim. (Barnes Wine Shop, 51 Barnes High Street, London SW13, £3.95).  
 ● 1987 Hillymore Chardonnay: Part of the Wyndham Estate stable in the Hunter Valley, North of Sydney, this Chardonnay's fresh buttery scent and clean, fruity lime-lemmon palate is, given the stronger Australian dollar, good value for money (Majestic Wine Warehouse, £3.99).  
 ● 1986 Hillymore Cabernet Sauvignon: Exclusive to Majestic (like the Chardonnay), this red, with its deep purple colour and blackcurrant palate, is the finer wine (£3.99).

## RESISTING TEMPTATION

THE DOW'S PORT GUIDE

Temptation No 4

The answer

A tempting suggestion that, if you are in a difficult position, you could not say with a clear conscience that you are a good wine drinker.

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● Alex McWhirter is the travel editor of Business Traveller magazine.

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As darkness falls over Verbier, the emphasis switches on to delicious dinners and the delights of *après ski*.

"Hooray Henry? What is a Hooray Henry?"

tail parties than Swiss bars. resort suffers from long, monotonous queues, which start forming at about nine in the morning. Once up the mountain, it is not much better. For every hour out in the sun is usually empty in the afternoon.

For an exhilarating escape through the trees or in wide open spaces which demand no particular skill, a trip to

Monday—their first Spanish day—reached the Swiss mountains, and with more than 175,000 British skiers each year, the director of tourism has set his heart against hearing any renunciation of skiing.

It is a good thing, too, because the ski season in Spain is a long one. It begins in the Pyrenees in December, and it ends in the Sierra Nevada in February, the bright sunshine was only once punctured by a solitary wisp of cloud.

The skiing in Verbier is as good as anywhere in the Alps, and the skiing in the Sierra Nevada is as good as anywhere in Spain. There is still an enjoyable week to be had with one of the top operators that M. Messillac allows into his resort.

**TRAVEL NOTES**

tourist are frowned upon. The result is a resort full of young privilege of having your name inscribed on your bottle, the despite the slushiness at the bottom of the nursery slopes, pass is the most expensive in the Alps. at: 287.

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**Continued from page 40**

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**"A FANCY TO GO RECORDED"**      **THE** *"Singing" Mothers*      **THE** *"Singing" Mothers*  
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**THE** *"Singing" Mothers*      **THE** *"Singing" Mothers*      **THE** *"Singing" Mothers*  
**JACKIE MASON'S**      **THE** *"Singing" Mothers*      **THE** *"Singing" Mothers*  
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1. *Chlorophyll a* (Chl *a*)

1. The first group of people who are not in the labor force are those who are not in the labor force because they are not in the labor force.

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and dates, which appears to be a roster or a list of participants. The names are written in a cursive script, and the dates are written in a more formal, printed style. The list is organized into two columns, with names on the left and dates on the right.

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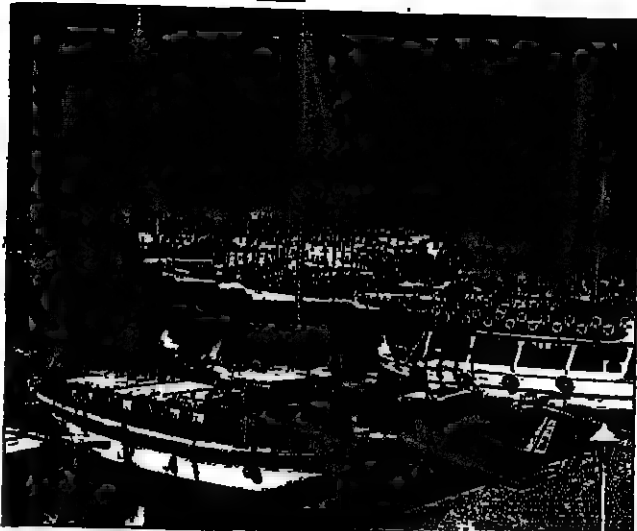
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## TRAVEL

# Adrift in old empires



Painted ships: Bodrum is a principal harbour for schooners

The twin-masted *gulet* schooner let Brian Jackman sample a Turkey as yet unlapped by the tourist tide

The "Kapitan", a middle-aged Turk with a corsair's moustache and a disarming smile, welcomed us at the jetty. Going aboard his ship was like entering a mosque. No shoes ever sully his scrubbed teak decks and carpeted cabins. So, for the next seven days, we lived barefoot. Ever since I first visited Turkey five years ago, sailing along the Lycian coast, I had stared with longing at the stately *gulets*, the old-fashioned twin-masted schooners that ply the waters between Bodrum and Kekova. Now, here I was on the *Guler-A*, bound from Gökcek on a chartered cruise around the bay of Fethiye.

There were 15 of us on board. Besides the Kapitan there was Recep, the cook, and Hilmi, the deck hand. The rest were passengers like me: 11 Britons and Teo, an English-speaking Turk who became our guide for the week. Strangers when we met but the best of friends when we parted, we were a disparate group (showbiz, finance, architecture, publishing), drawn together by lure of shores still scarcely touched by the tourist tide.

Our host's *gulet* was a beautiful vessel, 65ft long, with spacious quarters, powered by a diesel engine and wooden throughout, from her rakish bowsprit to her piratical poop. Sometimes, scrambling up the hillsides above our anchorage, I would look down through the pines and see her like a scene from *Treasure Island*, floating in water of such clarity she seemed to hover in mid-air above her own shadow on the seabed. In those hot, deserted turquoise coves, a hotel would have been sacrilege: yet a *gulet* at anchor seemed romantic and fitting. It was late September, in Turkey's "yellow summer" with hot, sunny days and nights so warm that we slept out on deck beneath the stars. In the mornings we would slip over the side for a swim before breakfast and return to a table laden with a sultan's feast: cheese and olives, chopped tomatoes, yoghurt, boiled eggs, sliced peaches, melon, crusty Turkish loaves, and dark amber honey.

Every meal was memorable, a cook's tour conducted by the indefatigable Recep. One evening the talk turned to

baklava, the honey-soaked pastry beloved by the Turks. Next day, in Fethiye, we scoured the narrow streets between carpet shops and fruit markets until we found a pastrycook who made it, and brought some back for supper.

Early next morning, long before the sun was over the horizon, the Kapitan and his crew were hauling the anchor and getting under way for Olü Deniz, the blue lagoon of a million Turkish tourist posters.

There is something about putting to sea which other journeys cannot match. At the beginning of every voyage comes that magical moment of letting go. A *gulet* is your home. It is, moreover, a moveable home, letting you explore in comfort a coast so wild that even today most of it is still inaccessible by road.

Here are stark capes, parched headlands lumbering into the sea, fleets of islands bristling with pines, reminiscent of a Japanese print, indigo bays where dolphins play and flying fish skim like swallows. Beyond, the mountains are leached of all substance by the heat, leaving only their hacked crests against the sky.

This was the ancient sea kingdom of the Lycians, who colonized the region during the second millennium BC. They were conquered by Alexander the Great and later the Romans, who found them so warlike they ultimately restored their independence. The Lycians are no more. Their rock tombs stare like eyeless sockets from a host of lonely cliffs, and cyclamen bloom from the ruins in Xanthos.

The Lycian shore must be the least spoiled littoral in the Mediterranean. It cannot last. Bodrum and Marmaris are now on the package tourist beat, and deserted anchorages are becoming harder to find as *gulet* cruising becomes more popular. But so far the Turks have behaved honourably in protecting their coastline.

Dalyan's reeds, ruins and turtle beach have been spared the development with which they were threatened. As for the dunes of Patara, the Seven Capes and the pine-scented hillsides of Skopca Liman, it is impossible to imagine them other than they are now, pristine and inviolate.

Brian Jackman is a writer with *The Sunday Times Magazine*.



Last of the Lycians: rock tombs staring from lonely cliffs (here at Kaunos) testify to the power of a lost sea kingdom. Many sites can be explored only by boat

## TRAVEL NOTES



Brian Jackman travelled as a guest of McCulloch Marine Charter, 60 Fordwych Road, London NW2 3TH (01-452 7508). McCulloch Marine is the most experienced British-based agent specializing in Turkish *gulet* charters, and will also make your travel arrangements. The nearest airport is Dalaman.

● *Gulets* can be chartered for a week or a whole season, with rates based on a daily price per boat — from £182 on a smaller *gulet* in May, to £767 per day in high season (August) on the most luxurious, air-conditioned craft.

● Further information on Turkey's Lycian coast from: Turkish Tourist Office, 170-173 Piccadilly, London W1 (01-734 8681).

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Lacquered Cufflinks, £65-£95.

Champagne face, Millennium watch, £550.

Tan strap watch, available in two sizes and a choice of dials, £425.

Thuya exotic veneered Humidor, £495.

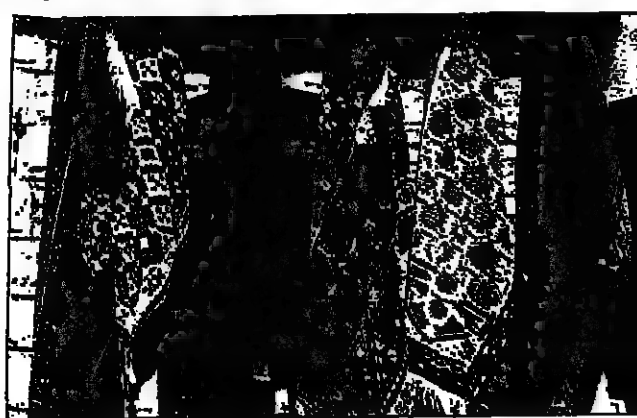
Ostrich 8oz Hip Flask, £99.

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Ostrich Bill Fold, £225.

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Eastern artefacts: carpets on sale at Kalkan; cheese and spinach pastries; and bread ready for transport to the islands



**Compiled by Peter Dear  
and Jane Rackham**

## CHANNEL 4

**World This Week.** A report on the European community summit in Rhodes; and an examination of relations between the United Nations, including an interview from Hong Kong with celebrity Librarian Wang Wei.

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**7:30 Crown House Family**  
**Stage Set in the 1950s.**  
 The Crown House Family  
 Stage Set in the 1950s.  
 Janna Aagaard and Martin  
 Jarvis of *Big*  
**8:00 Bookstall: Nigel**  
**Exerts his** Anthony  
**8:30 All in the Mail:**  
**Schopenhauer (6)**  
**9:00 News: In on a Wing**  
 and a Tail (new subject)  
 and a new subject:  
 some of his prescient  
 assignments in 22  
 years of flying with the  
**9:15 The Natural History**  
**Programme (1 5:55**  
 Weather

**11:00** *Paula Abdul's Wild & Crazy* (TV-14) Paula Abdul's Wild & Crazy: The British soldiers sent to Cyprus and Aden to keep the peace (V)

**11:30** *Seeds of Faith: Stanley Brothman shares an encounter with the living God* (G)

**12:00** *News* (TV-14) News with anchor Katie Couric

**12:30** *Weather, 12.30 Shipping* (TV-14) Weather, 12.30 Shipping

**2:00pm** *Paramount News 4.00* (TV-14) Paramount News 4.00

**4:00pm** *Options: 4.00 Education* (TV-14) Options: 4.00 Education

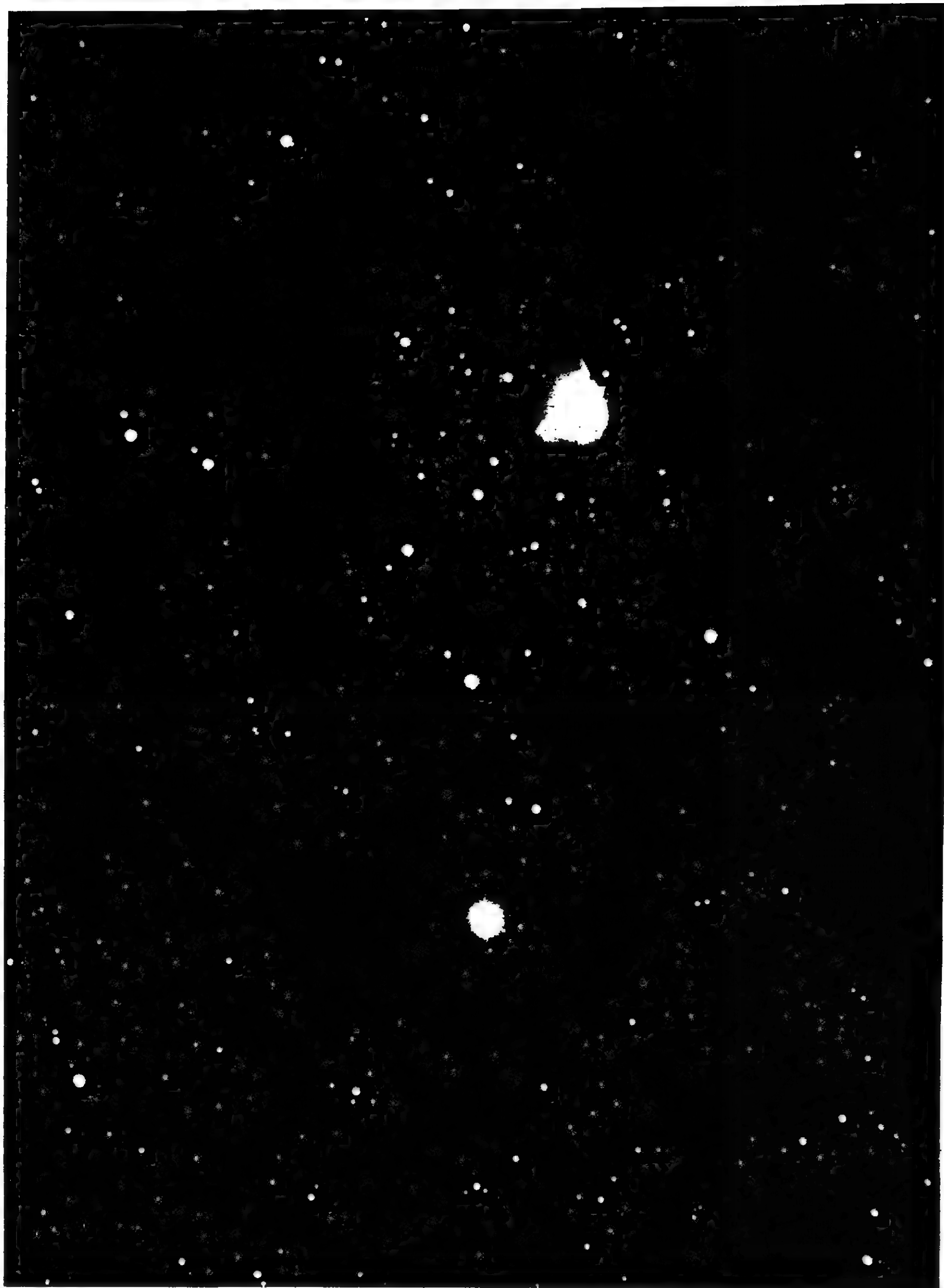
**4:30pm** *Wishers: 4.30 Room to Listen* (TV-14) Wishers: 4.30 Room to Listen

**6:30** *Prince Earl* (TV-14) Prince Earl









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## WALL STREET

New York (Reuters) — Shares dropped in early trading yesterday, along with bond prices, after the news of a stronger-than-expected rise in November employment. Analysts said that the rise raised fears that the Federal Reserve Board would tighten credit.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 8 points to 2,093.88. Early falls were American Telephone and Telegraph, off 1/4 to 29 1/2, IBM, down 1/2 to 117 1/2 and General Electric, down 1/2 to 43 1/2. On Thursday, the Dow average closed 12.63 lower at 2,101.88.

## STOCK MARKET

## Storehouse in retreat as bid speculation evaporates

Some of the speculative froth that has made Storehouse, the retail group which includes British Home Stores, Habitat-Mothercare and Richards, the market's strongest features in recent weeks is showing signs of evaporating.

The price fell 1 1/2p to 193p along with the rest of the market yesterday on a turnover of more than 6 million shares, helped by another sell recommendation from Mr John Richards, the leading retail analyst at County NatWest WoodMac, the broker.

He says that the share price has been buoyed by "massive speculation" which has seen 30 per cent of the company's changing hands in past week or so, reviving talk that a consortium bid for the company may be on the way. He

Reuter's shares rose by 6p to 467p against the trend. The board gave a presentation for analysts and fund managers in New York this week and clearly made a favourable impression. This followed a similar presentation in Edinburgh. Another presentation is planned for Zurich soon.

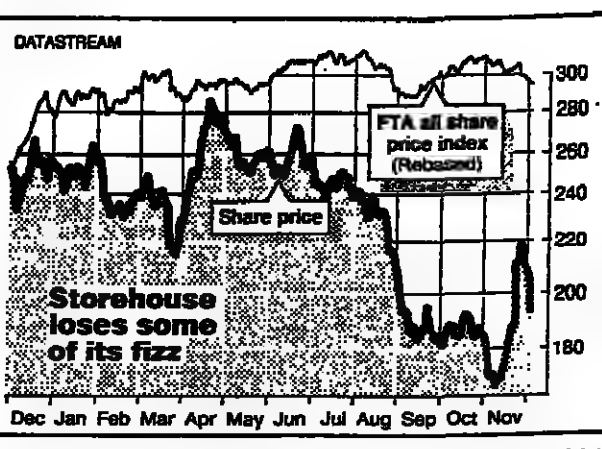
Mr Richards believes that if all the recent bid speculation was stripped out, the share price would be trading at about the more realistic level of 150p.

He said: "If anyone has built up a stake, why would they do it in such an inept fashion, by pushing up the price and attempting to kick Storehouse into play?"

But there is still intense speculation in the market-place that someone has been doing just that.

One senior broker commented: "The high levels of turnover we have been seeing in Storehouse recently certainly suggest that someone has been tucking them away. It cannot all be just pure speculation."

One leading high street retailer has admitted to *The Times* that it has received an informal approach to see if it was interested in acquiring any of the various parts of Storehouse. But it rejected the idea.



Last year — before the crash — Sir Terence Conran, the Storehouse chairman, managed to fight off an audacious bid from Mr Peter Earl's Benlox after rejecting earlier proposals from Mounthelg. Mr Tony Clegg's property group.

Mr Clegg said that he had been prepared to make an offer of 435p a share. But Mr Clegg's offer was quickly rejected by Sir Terence, who has since appointed Mr Michael Julien as chief executive in an effort to revive the company's fortunes.

Conditions in the rest of the equity market remained volatile. Share prices extended Thursday's losses, worried by the bearish outlook of several leading brokers and houses and the latest US unemployment figures.

Attempts at a rally, following indications that the British Steel flotation was unlikely to be the resounding flop indicated by some commentators, soon faded.

Warburg Securities, the broker, was one of the culprits, having decided to cut a number of positions which resulted in large losses of stock coming on offer, including 9.7 million Tesco, down 1p at 133p.

In the conditions which have dominated trading since last week's bad trade figures and subsequent 1 percentage point rise in bank base rates to 13 per cent it was inevitable that prices would be driven lower.

Suggestions during after-hours trading that James Capel, the broker, had asked its analysts to review their earnings forecasts during this weekend only added to the gloom. Capel's economists are

said to have reduced their estimate of company earnings for 1989 from 15 to 5 per cent.

A number of other brokers also believe that a strong pound, combined with high interest rates, can only mean a squeeze on company earnings.

To cap it all, the latest US unemployment figures made gloomy reading, showing non-farming employment increasing at almost double the expected rate. Dealers are now worried that this could lead the Federal Reserve Board to force up American interest rates yet again.

The gilt-edged market took the threat seriously with prices at the longer end losing early gains of 2 1/2 to close with small losses.

The dull conditions saw the FT-SE 100 index fall through the 1,775 resistance level to stand 18.9 points lower at 1,756.

Phillips & Drew, the broker, says the market is bumping along the bottom. It is recommending some stocks with good yields, including British Gas, 1/2p dearer at 156p, GEC, 3p lower at 174p, GLE, 2p down at 177p, ICL, 6p easier at 970p and Courtaulds, 4 1/2p down at 244p.

1,759.8 by 3 pm, having been 22.3 down earlier.

The narrower FT index of 30 leading shares was 14.2 points lower at 1,436.0, having been 16.1 down.

Among the leaders Cadbury Schweppes recovered from an early fall to extend Thursday's lead, boosted by the revised state of a bid from General Cinema of the US, which continues to cling on to an 18 per cent stake. But Cadbury has been anxious to play down the speculation.

This week, General Cinema sold its US bottling interests to PepsiCo for \$1.5 billion (£89 million).

PepsiCo financed the deal by issuing 20-year bearer shares. But the market remains convinced the Americans are clearing the decks to make a full bid for Cadbury, which finished 1p dearer at 346p.

Meanwhile, the Eurotunnel units ran into further profit-taking, with the ordinary down 1 1/2p at 420p and the warrants 1/2p cheaper at 29p.

Michael Clark

## INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

	Nominal rate	Compounded at 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Comments
<b>BANKS</b>						
Ordinary Dep A/c	4.00	4.04	3.25	none/none	7 day	
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	7.75	8.03	6.42	2,500-25,000	1 mth	01-28 1587
Boles	8.75	9.15	7.40	1,000-10,000	1 mth	01-28 1587
Lloyds	8.75	9.15	7.40	1,000-10,000	1 mth	01-28 1587
Midland	8.75	9.15	7.40	1,000-10,000	1 mth	01-28 1587
NatWest	8.75	9.15	7.40	1,000-10,000	1 mth	01-28 1587

	Nominal rate	Compounded at 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Comments
<b>HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS</b>						
Barclays	8.50	8.98	7.42	2,500	none	01-28 1587
Boles	8.50	8.98	7.42	1,000	none	01-28 1587
Co-operative	8.50	8.98	7.42	1,000	none	01-28 1587
First Direct	8.50	8.98	7.42	1,000	none	01-28 1587
Lloyds	8.50	8.98	7.42	1,000	none	01-28 1587
Midland	8.50	8.98	7.42	1,000	none	01-28 1587
NatWest	8.50	8.98	7.42	1,000	none	01-28 1587

	Nominal rate	Compounded at 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Comments
<b>BUILDING SOCIETIES</b>						
Ordinary Share A/c	5.50	5.50	4.40	1 mth		
Best buy — largest soc:						
Barclays	5.50	5.50	4.40	1 mth	none	
Boles	5.50	5.50	4.40	1 mth	none	
Lloyds	5.50	5.50	4.40	1 mth	none	
Midland	5.50	5.50	4.40	1 mth	none	
NatWest	5.50	5.50	4.40	1 mth	none	

	Nominal rate	Compounded at 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Comments
<b>NATIONAL SAVINGS</b>						
Ordinary A/c	5.00	5.00	4.00	1-10,000	8 day	01-28 1587
Investment A/c	5.00	5.00	4.00	1-10,000	1 mth	01-28 1587
Income Bond	10.75	10.75	8.00	2,000-100,000	3 mth	01-28 1587
Deposit Bond	10.75	10.75	8.00	100-100,000	3 mth	01-28 1587
34th Issue Cert	7.50	7.50	6.00	25-1,000	8 day	01-28 1587
Yearly Plan	7.50	7.50	6.00	20-20,000	14 day	01-28 1587
General Plan	5.01	5.01	4.00	1-10,000	8 day	01-28 1587

	Nominal rate	Compounded at 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Comments
<b>GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS</b>						
New Direction	10.1	10.1	8.58	1,000 min	1 yr	Figures from 1987
Finance	9.50	9.50	8.00	1,000 min	2 yrs	Figures from 1987
ALA	9.75	9.75	8.25	1,000 min	3 yrs	Figures from 1987
American Life	9.75	9.75	8.25	1,000 min	4 yrs	Figures from 1987
Providence Capital	9.55	9.55	8.11	10,000 min	5 yrs	Figures from 1987

	Nominal rate	Compounded at 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Comments
<b>FIRST TIME BUYERS</b>						
Landlord	12.50	12.50	10.00	100	1 yr	Figures from 1987
Building Societies	12.50	12.50	10.00	100	1 yr	Figures from 1987
First Direct	12.50	12.50	10.00	100	1 yr	Figures from 1987
Boles	12.50	12.50	10.00	100	1 yr	Figures from 1987
Lloyds	12.50	12.50	10.00	100	1 yr	Figures from 1987

	Nominal rate	Compounded at 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Comments
<b>OTHER (INSURANCE COMPANY)</b>						
Aviva	15.18	15.18	12.00	100	1 yr	Figures from 1987
Prudential	15.18	15.18	12.00	100	1 yr	Figures from 1987
Standard Life	15.18	15.18	12.00	100	1 yr	Figures from 1987
Scottish Widows	15.18	15.18	12.00	100	1 yr	Figures from 1987
Legal & General	15.18	15.18	12.00	100	1 yr	Figures from 1987

## RECENT ISSUES

	Issue	Price	Change
<b>EQUITIES</b>			
Apollon Watch Prods	119	119	0
Bliss (110p)	119	119	0
Buckland Motor (110p)	119	119	0
Buller (110p)	119	119	0
Canalway (110p)	119	119	0
Cheltenham Group (110p)	119	119	0
Colson (110p)	119	119	0
Com-Tel (110p)	119	119	0
Darby Group (110p)	119	119	0
Dewson Group (110p)	119	119	0
East End (110p)	119	119	0
Edinburgh Hibernian (110p)	119	119	0
Hartford (110p)	119	119	0
H-Tech Sports (110p)	119	119	0
Jersey Gen Inv (110p)	119	119	0
Joyce Group (110p)	119	119	0
Kronosgraphic Plc	119	119	0
Marshall (110p)	119	119	0
Meridian (110p)	119	119	0
New Zealand Inv (110p)	119	119	0

	Issue	Price	Change
<b>RIGHTS ISSUES</b>			
Amcor	119	119	0
British Steel	119	119	0
Elect Mech N/P	119	119	0
Goal Pet N/P	119	119	0
Hawson N/P	119	119	0
Peabody N/P	119	119	0
Quadrant N/P	119	119	0
Rangers N/P	119	119	0
Reliance N/P	119	119	0
Woodings N/P	119	119	0

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## UNIT-TRUST INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Unit	Price	Change
<b>UNIT-TRUST INSURANCE INVESTMENTS</b>			
Amcor	119	119	0
British Steel	119	119	0
Elect Mech N/P	119	119	0
Goal Pet N/P	119	119	0
Hawson N/P	119	119	0
Peabody N/P	119	119	0
Quadrant N/P	119	119	0
Rangers N/P	119	119	0
Reliance N/P	119	119	0
Woodings N/P	119	119	0

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading







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Edited by Vivien Goldsmith

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## Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 21).

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	+3	+5	+6	+4	+5		
2	+4	+5	+5	+7	+1		
3	+1	+2	+2	+4	+4		
4	+3	+3	+8	+6	+2		
5	+5	+4	+4	+4	+3		
6	+2	+2	+7	+5	+3		
7	+2	+3	+5	+7	+1		
8	+2	+2	+2	+4	+4		
9	+2	+4	+6	+8	+1		
10	+5	+4	+4	+3	+5		
11	+2	+2	+2	+3	+4		
12	+3	+2	+3	+3	+5		
13	+2	+2	+6	+5	+2		
14	+1	+2	+1	+5	+3		
15	+3	+6	+4	+8	+2		
16	+3	+3	+8	+3	+3		
17	+3	+5	+3	+4	+3		
18	+3	+1	+1	+3	+5		
19	+3	+1	+2	+3	+2		
20	+4	+7	+5	+6	+2		
21	+5	+2	+4	+3	+3		
22	+1	+3	+6	+5	+1		
23	+2	+7	+5	+7	+2		
24	+2	+2	+4	+3	+3		
25	+2	+2	+6	+6	+1		
26	+1	+3	+2	+4	+2		
27	+2	+4	+3	+5	+6		
28	+2	+5	+4	+8	+1		
29	+2	+2	+3	+5	+5		
30	+2	+2	+6	+4	+2		
31	+2	+4	+6	+6	+1		
32	+2	+3	+3	+3	+2		
33	+1	+1	+7	+8	+3		
34	+5	+2	+3	+3	+3		
35	+1	+4	+6	+7	+1		
36	+2	+3	+2	+3	+2		
37	+1	+1	+7	+5	+1		
38	+4	+5	+5	+5	+1		
39	+2	+2	+5	+5	+6		
40	+3	+1	+7	+5	+1		
41	+2	+3	+5	+5	+3		
42	+2	+4	+8	+5	+1		
43	+2	+2	+8	+4	+3		
44	+1	+1	+1	+5	+5		

## First payouts likely under SIB compensation scheme

The 60 people who invested £400,000 in the failed Allied Equity arm of the Earley brothers' Humberside empire could be the first to be refunded under the Investors' Compensation Scheme.

This was set up under the Financial Services Act and came into force in August. It repays up to £48,000 of any loss due to an authorized firm going into default — 100 per cent of the first £30,000 and 90 per cent of the next £20,000.

Allied Equity was registered under Imro, the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation. This week the liquidator of Allied Equity, Mr Edward Klempla, insolvency partner with Deloitte, Haskins & Sells in Leeds, met the managers of the scheme.

Mr Klempla said: "They are being very positive. How-

ever since it is their first claim they are being very careful to go by the rule book. First they have to declare Allied Equity to be in default and only then can they receive claims. However there do seem to be some radical deficiencies between assets and liabilities. It is important to note that the scheme only protects private individuals and not professional investors."

Mr Eddie Ray, chairman of the compensation scheme management company, which operates under the Securities and Investments Board, said: "There is a creditors' meeting on Thursday. If the company is declared to be in default then we will compensate for any missing cash. It is important to stress that we do not compensate for poor investment performance, only

for missing cash. If there is a valid claim we hope to move quickly and make a pay-out within six months. I advise any of the investors with Allied Equity to get in touch with us directly."

Allied Equity is the second of the Earley brothers' companies to crash. Last month Earley Enterprises went down owing £3.7 million after disastrously buying into MES, the computer company based at Warrington, Cheshire.

The companies attracted attention largely because of the "golden touch" of Mr Aidan Earley, whose stock market coups had reportedly made him a millionaire by the age of 21. His four brothers joined him in setting up companies in their home-town of Market Weighton, Humberside. These included investment,

finance, property development and kitchen fitting firms. Earley Enterprises, the flagship company, won local support by offering returns of up to 44 per cent at one stage. It is too early to say how close, if at all, the finances of Earley and Allied Equity were mixed up.

When Earley Enterprises first ran into difficulties at the end of October, Mr Earley said: "The problem is isolated and is in the process of being resolved. Anybody else who would like to know more is quite welcome to call at our offices."

Unfortunately his optimism was not justified. Anyone who tries to find out more by phoning the office hears the disconnected tone.

Hugh Thompson

## Credit licence plans under fire

Government plans to axe the licensing system for credit brokers have been criticized by consumer groups.

Sir Gordon Borrie, the Director General of Fair Trading, and the Consumers' Association have both protested strongly about the proposed changes in consumer credit controls.

The deadline for submissions on the proposals expired yesterday although some organizations, including the National Consumer Council, have been given extra time.

Sir Gordon says in his submission that he is "deeply concerned" about the plan to remove the need for brokers to be licensed.

"In my view these proposals will lead to significant consumer detriment. I consider that there is a need for more objective research and inquiry before such measures are implemented."

Under the proposed new system, only lenders and hirers would have to be licensed. However, brokers with a bad record would have to apply for a licence and there would be a blacklist of those whose applications for licences had been refused or whose licences had been revoked.

The consultative document proposes that trading standards offices would have the power to act swiftly against businesses believed to be acting improperly. At present it can take months to revoke a licence and put a lender or broker out of business.

Sir Gordon says: "A system based on cure alone is inherently less effective than one based on prevention and cure: action can only be taken when considerable harm has been done to consumers."

"There is evidence that a small minority of financial brokers act irresponsibly in promoting loans. Not being the lender themselves and being concerned primarily with their commission, they have little incentive to ensure that the borrower will be able to keep up repayments."

The Consumers' Association is suggesting that instead



Concern at licensing proposals: Sir Gordon Borrie

of reducing the number of businesses that need to be licensed, the Government should increase the fees credit businesses pay so that more resources can be put into policing the system.

The Finance Houses Association, which represents many of the leading lenders in the personal loan market, has

not opposed the scrapping of licences for brokers in its submission.

Mr Neil Grant, director of the FHA, says that the licences are not being properly policed at present so the FHA can sympathize with the need to change the system.

Maria Scott

## Time to invest in 10% bonds

While home owners wait in anxious anticipation of higher mortgage rates in the New Year, savers are already beginning to feel the effects of last week's rise in base rates.

Guaranteed income bonds, which guarantee a fixed return on periods of between one and five years, have been given a new lease of life since interest rates started to climb in the summer.

Following the latest base rate increase Chase de Vere Investments has launched a

bond paying 10.1 per cent net of basic rate tax for a year on amounts of £2,000 or more.

New Direction Finance, a wholesale broker whose guaranteed income bonds are underwritten by Credit & Commerce, raised the rate on its one-year bond from 9.5 per cent to 10.1 per cent this week.

But the question for income-seekers is whether to wait for even higher rates. Although some companies have set new rates this week others are yet to make a

decision. Mr Kevin Mills, a director of independent advisers Hargreaves Lansdown, believes investors should consider locking at least part of their capital into rates of 9.5 per cent and above now becoming available.

Those who are happy to take a one-year bond should certainly consider the 10 per cent plus ones now on offer.

There may well be more to come, he agrees, but it is worth taking advantage of rates of around 10 per cent.

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## FAMILY MONEY

Family Assurance  
free pension offer

The Family Assurance friendly society is launching a free pension. "Rebate-only" personal pensions require contributors to put in no more than the incentives available from the Government to encourage people to contract out of Serps — the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme.

For people who agree to contract out of Serps, the rebates on National Insurance Contributions, tax relief and the special incentive bonus can add up to a tidy sum for starting a pension.

## On Line redrawn

National Westminster Bank has revamped its On Line account for teenagers. The account now comes with new free gifts — a wallet and pen and a mini electronic personal organizer. The weekly limit on withdrawals from cash dispensers is up from £25 to £30. The minimum to open an account is £10.

## LIT group expands

LIT Holdings, the financial services group, has expanded in the personal financial services market this week with two separate transactions. It made a £24.5 million agreed bid for BES sponsor Johnson Fry two days before the Levitt Group, 25 per cent owned by LIT, announced a joint venture which will enable it to launch unit trusts and manage pension funds.

## Marrying up tax

If Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, intended his Budget changes in the organization of maintenance payments to deter marriage break-up, he has probably succeeded, according to Gamlens, a firm of London divorce lawyers. It has just produced a guide to divorce, explaining the loss of tax relief on maintenance payments resulting from petitions filed before March 15. Copies of the Gamlens Divorce Guide 1988/89 are available free from Gamlens, PO Box 374, 3 & 4 Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

## Advising women

National & Provincial Building Society is launching a financial advice service for women. It has recruited a panel of professional women, chaired by Miss Jean Denton, deputy chairman of the Black Country Development Corporation, to advise on the service. Seminars for women will be held by the society throughout the country and it expects to launch a telephone information service next year.

PEP pressure grows as  
Barclayshare quits

Pressure on the Chancellor to improve the rules for personal equity plans heightened this week after Barclayshare announced it was withdrawing from the market.

This comes barely a month after the TSB said it would also be pulling out.

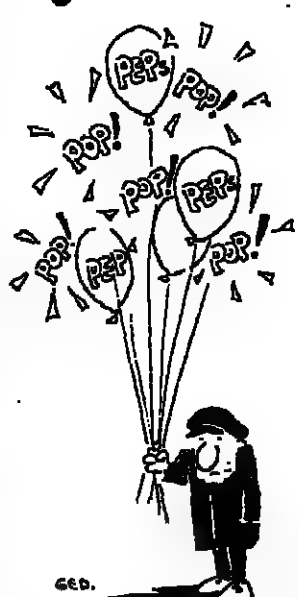
The problem is continuing frustration over the complexity of PEP rules and dismal sales in a dull market. To a certain extent, PEPs have also suffered from the reduction in tax rates — lower taxes mean less incentive to invest in tax-saving schemes.

Barclayshare has sold only 3,500 plans this year, against 15,000 last year. It says it is deferring a decision on whether to introduce a PEP in 1989 and is hoping the Chancellor will announce significant improvements to the system in the Budget.

Mr Gavin Oldham, chief executive of Barclayshare, is lobbying for simplification of the rules and for changes in the way tax relief is given.

At present, investors receive complete tax relief from income and gains, but only if they hold the PEP for at least one calendar year.

Mr Oldham believes investors ought to be able to set up conditional, widely spread and balanced portfolios within a PEP but that they ought to



receive tax relief on income from dividends on British shares.

Barclayshare is committed to encouraging wider share ownership, says Mr Oldham, but the Government needs a "Mark II" PEP urgently.

"There is no point in clinging to something that is not delivering the goods," he says. Fidelity did not offer a PEP this year and will not be back in the market next year unless there are big improvements.

"Our attitude is that there will have to be some reasonably fundamental changes before we go back," says Mr Barry Bateman, the Fidelity managing director.

Framlington did have a scheme this year but is not planning anything in 1989 unless there are changes. It has offered PEPs investing in unit trusts and the ceiling for contributions to these is £540 a year, which is simply not enough, says Framlington, to make the plans attractive or viable.

Other groups, however, are soldiering on. Save & Prosper has decided it will launch a PEP next year, as will the Bradford & Bingley Building Society, the Bank of Scotland and Lloyds Bank. All are united, however, in the belief that improvements are sorely needed.

These range from a big increase in the £3,000-a-year limit on contributions for share-based PEPs, to tax relief on contributions and simpler administration.

With the withdrawal of another leading player from the PEP market, managers are increasingly confident that the Government will restructure the schemes. The Treasury has been canvassing the views of management groups.

Maria Scott

## Sun rises on Eastern trusts

## UNIT TRUST PERFORMANCES

Offer to bid with income reinvested to 1.12.88

## TOP 10

Abtrust Far East Emerg Economy	149.7
Abtrust Pacific	149.3
MIM Britannia Japan Performance	145.2
Thornion Far Eastern Opportunity	142.6
Lazard Japan & Pacific Growth	142.1
MIM Britannia Japan Smaller Cos	141.2
S&P UK Smaller Cos Growth	140.6
Scott Equitable FT Far East	138.5
MIM Britannia South East Asia	138.4
TR Japan Growth	137.8

## BOTTOM 10

Gartmore Gold Share	69.1
MAG Gold & General	69.0
NM Schroder Gold	66.4
Target Gold	66.5
Royal Trust PPT Gold Share	65.4
Gartmore Australian	65.0
MIM Britannia Gold	62.9
S&P Exploration	61.8
Waverley Australian Gold	59.0
Henderson Gold	56.3

Source: Miroslav

The Japanese and Far Eastern markets are booming away with Eastern trusts at the top of both the one-year and one-month unit trust statistics.

Mr Hugh Young, the Far Eastern investment manager of Abtrust, scored a double with his trusts taking first and second place in the one-year figures.

Both funds have portfolios which have remained essentially the same as before the stock market crash.

"People recognize the Far East as the most dynamic growth area," says Mr Young.

But for these high-risk trusts, he has been investing outside the obvious areas such as Japan and Hong Kong, and putting money into Thailand, Taiwan and Australia.

There is also a uniformity about the bottom of the charts.

Over one year the gold funds have done particularly badly. Whereas over the past month the bottom of the league is dominated by smaller American companies.

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But remember, past performance is not always a guide to the future; the price of shares and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back the amount invested.

Investing regularly through our Savings Scheme has the added advantage of sparing you the critical decision of when to buy the shares and you can invest as little as £25 per month. Alternatively you can pay-in lump sums of £250 or more whenever you like.

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Throgmorton Investment Management Limited, FREEPOST, London EC2B 2TN.

The  
Throgmorton Trust  
Savings Scheme

Source: MICROFIL

\*Compound annual rate. †Share price total return all income reinvested, figures based on mid market prices. The cost of buying and selling shares must be taken into account.

Invested by Throgmorton Investment Management Limited. A member of IIMRO.

For Throgmorton Investment Management Limited, FREEPOST, LONDON EC2B 2TN. I would like to receive more information on the savings scheme.

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(Capital)

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OUR VIEW OF  
THE PRIVATE CLIENT

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At James Capel, we become involved with our private clients. All new clients are invited to attend a meeting with their portfolio manager to ensure that their portfolio is constructed to achieve the optimum balance between income and capital growth and fully accounts for the particular tax implications applicable to each individual. Your manager is part of an investment team that watches out for the risks as well as the opportunities in the markets.

Rumour and gossip are travelling between markets and across borders faster than ever before, making solid research even more essential when trying to anticipate the swings and roundabouts in the value of stocks and shares. At James Capel, the decisions taken by your portfolio manager are

supported by international analysis acclaimed as the best on the market.

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## Planning

"I have made a Plan... which, when rightly understood will supply all the elegance and comforts which Mankind wants in the Country and (I will add) if right, be exactly fit for the owner, the Poet and the Painter..."

"Placemaking, and a good English Garden

depend entirely on principle and have very little to do with fashion; for it is a word that in my opinion disgraces Science wherever it is found".

Lancelot "Capability" Brown in a letter, 1775

Capability Brown's principles in planning for "Placemaking, and a good English Garden" are reflected in Capel-Cure Myers' views on investment management.

Properly planned asset allocation, as with the overall layout of a garden or park, is central to our philosophy. We are also concerned to identify fundamental value for money, not to pursue fashionable investments in the hope of continually making quick profits. Excessive emphasis on the short term tends to blur the longer term objective.

Thus Brown's principles in creating a landscape are identical to ours — the result of which is to create an effect that is "exactly fit for the owner". Private investors who agree with these principles are invited to telephone or write to Alun Evans.



Brown's plans and contract for Audley End c. 1753



Alun Evans

CCM Capability

Capel-Cure Myers Capital Management Limited, 66 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2EU. Telephone: 01-248 8446. Member of The Securities Association. Member of The International Stock Exchange. Supporters of the National Gardens Scheme and Southern Gardens Scheme. Capel-Cure Myers acknowledges the kind co-operation of English Heritage, Essex Records Office and Miss Dorothy Stroud in the preparation of this advertisement.



# UNIT TRUSTS

With over 1,200 unit trusts available and more being launched each month, how do you know which to choose?

In reality there are only three basic types of unit trust. M&G has an outstandingly successful example of each:

**Recovery Fund for capital growth.**

**Dividend Fund for increasing income.**

**Second General Fund for a balance between income and growth.**

It would be hard to find three funds with more convincing long term records. One of them is likely to be the right choice for you.

Past performance cannot be a guarantee for the future.

The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

## Growth RECOVERY FUND

M&G Recovery Fund is probably the most successful unit trust ever launched and the table below shows just how well it has achieved its aim of capital growth. The Fund buys the shares of companies which have fallen on hard times. Losses must be expected when a company fails to recover but the effect of a turnaround can be dramatic.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G Recovery Fund on 23rd May 1969, with net income reinvested.				
Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G RECOVERY	FT. ORDINARY INDEX	BUILDING SOCIETY	
23 May '69	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	
1970	1,176	857	1,080	
1975	2,640	1,112	1,466	
1980	10,256	1,729	2,164	
1985	27,080	4,947	3,240	
30 NOV '88	58,568	6,937	3,995*	

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (Source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Recovery figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Recovery Fund on 23rd May 1969 would have grown to £58,568 by 30th November 1988 with net income reinvested. \*Estimated.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** On 30th November 1988 offered prices and estimated gross current yields were: Recovery 572-6p, 774-2p, 3-64%; Dividend 556-9p, 1794-8p, 5-21%; Second 975-5p, 2028-1p, 3-40%, 6-54%. The prices are calculated as at 9.15 am each business day. Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. The spread is the difference between the "offer price" (at which you buy units) and the "bid" price (at which you sell). We have a discretion to vary the pricing basis of the units and also the spread within a range, calculated in accordance with statutory regulations. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price. An annual charge of up to 1% of each fund's value - currently 1% for Recovery and Second General and 4% for Dividend - plus VAT is deducted from gross income. Income for Accumulation units is reinvested to increase their value and for Income units it is distributed net of basic rate tax on the following dates:

		RECOVERY		DIVIDEND		SECOND	
		20 Feb	15 Jan	20 Aug	15 July	20 Aug	15 July
Applications received by:		23 Dec '88	20 May '89	20 May '89	15 Dec '88	20 May '89	15 Dec '88
for next distribution on:		20 Feb '89	15 Jan '89	20 Aug '89	15 July '89	20 Aug '89	15 July '89

Capital gains (tax 1988/89). An individual's first £5,000 of realised capital gains will be exempt from tax. Gains in excess of £5,000 will be added to the individual's other income and taxed at the rates of the applicable. Gains arising before 31st March 1982 are not now subject to capital gains tax and gains since 31st March 1982 are subject to indexation relief. You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for purchase or sale will be due for settlement by the date shown on the contract notes. The Trustee for Dividend and Recovery is Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited and for Second is Lloyds Bank Plc. The Funds are all wider-range investments and are authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986.

## Income DIVIDEND FUND

If you need income which will grow over the years M&G Dividend Fund could be your ideal investment. The Fund invests in a wide range of ordinary shares and aims to provide above average and increasing income from higher yielding shares.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. £1,000 invested in Income units at the launch of M&G Dividend Fund on 5th May 1964, compared with a similar investment in a Building Society.				
Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G DIVIDEND	BUILDING SOCIETY	M&G DIVIDEND	BUILDING SOCIETY
5 May '64	—	—	£1,000	£1,000
1965	£40	£38	1,020	1,000
1970	46	49	1,076	1,000
1975	83	72	1,630	1,000
1980	166	103	2,428	1,000
1985	228	87	6,515	1,000
30 NOV '88	368	65*	10,508	1,000

NOTES: All income figures shown are net of basic rate tax. The Building Society income figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (Source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Dividend capital figures are all realisation values. £1,000 invested in M&G Dividend Fund on 5th May 1964 would have produced an income of £368 in 1988 and the capital would have grown to £12,464 by 30th November 1988. \*Estimated for the year.

## Balanced SECOND GENERAL

M&G Second General Trust Fund aims for consistent growth of both capital and income and has a 32-year performance record which is second to none. It has a wide spread of shares mainly in British companies and expected yield in line with the FT. Actuaries All-Share Index.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £1,000 invested at the launch of M&G Second General on 5th June 1956, with net income reinvested.				
Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G SECOND	FT. ORDINARY INDEX	BUILDING SOCIETY	
5 June '56	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	
1960	1,952	2,008	1,167	
1965	3,132	2,623	1,397	
1970	4,648	3,054	1,742	
1975	7,584	3,952	2,366	
1980	15,540	6,150	3,476	
1985	27,400	17,624	5,229	
30 NOV '88	55,724	24,712	6,447*	

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (Source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Second General figures are all realisation values. An investment of £1,000 in M&G Second General on 5th June 1956 would have grown to £55,724 by 30th November 1988 with net income reinvested. \*Estimated.

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To: M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, M&G HOUSE, VICTORIA ROAD, CHELMSFORD CM1 1PB. Please invest the sum(s) indicated below in the Fund(s) of my choice (minimum investment in each Fund: £1,000) in ACCUMULATION/INCOME units (delete as applicable) or Accumulation units will be issued for Recovery and Second and Income units will be issued for Dividend) at the price ruling on receipt of this application. DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY.

RECOVERY (Net £1,000)	£	-00
DIVIDEND (Net £1,000)	£	-00
SECOND (Net £1,000)	£	-00

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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GCOW

THE M&G GROUP

# FAMILY MONEY

## Complaint on fees is fully justified

From Mr Dennis Jones  
Sir, Mr John Morrison's complaint about having to pay a fee to a solicitor to obtain his deeds after redeeming his building society mortgage is fully justified (*Family Money*, November 26).

There is, in fact, no need for the society to involve a solicitor.

If the land is unregistered, a receipt is endorsed by the society on the mortgage and a search is made at the Land Charges Registry, the fee for which is negligible.

With registered land it is, in my experience in the securities department of a major mortgage lender, the frequent practice of building societies to send the Charge Certificate, together with a discharge form (form 53) to the owner, leaving the owner with the task of sending these documents to the Land Registry to be exchanged for his Land Certificate.

There is no charge for a Land Registry search.

Hence the society would only be justified in charging for a Land Charges Registry search and postage - and nothing more. Yours faithfully, DENNIS JONES, The Warrs, 38 Hilston Avenue, Halesowen, West Midlands, November 26.

## A question of timing for Sid

From Miss Gwendoline Lamb  
Sir, I feel very strongly indeed about the fact that the British Steel share issue is grossly unfair to all the Sidneys of this country. I notice that dealings in British Steel shares commence at 2.30pm on Monday, December 5.

However, letters of allocation of shares in British Steel will not be received by the Sidneys of this country until Tuesday, December 13, 1988, at the earliest. Time and time again in previous government issues I have seen people going along to their bank or building society to try and sell shares

especially in the light of recent financial scandals and the new Financial Services Act? I am now calling on the Department of Trade to answer why dealings cannot start on Tuesday, December 13, 1988, for absolutely everyone, institutions and Sidneys alike!

We must all play on the same football pitch with the same goalposts or not at all!

This has happened with previous government share issues and I am absolutely determined to see that fair play exists for all, especially in view of the fact that there are more privatizations, i.e. water and electricity, still to come.

The public, including Sid, Sidney, Sir Sidney, and Lord Sidney, must be made to understand that while City institutions may collect a premium on British Steel shares at 2.30pm on Monday, December 5, 1988, they (ie, the Sidneys) won't be able to deal until December 13, 1988 at the earliest when the 60p they will have paid as a first instalment on the share may have nose-dived down to 40p!

On this basis I leave you readers to guess whether or not I have decided to buy my 400 shares!

Yours faithfully, GWENDOLINE LAMB, 17 Worsley Crescent, Marton, Middlesbrough, Teesside.

## Plea for easier life claims procedures

From Mr G Fenner  
Sir, Life insurance companies are now generating huge amounts of business and doubtless spending many millions on advertising and encouraging clients to apply for life cover. It is a fairly straightforward matter to obtain life cover.

Is it not possible for simplicity and a greater degree of uniformity to apply at the other end of the system?

My wife died in January and as a result I had five claims on four large insurance companies and one claim on the Department of Education and Science. At a time when one is understandably bewildered I found the claims procedures of all these companies even more bewildering in their complexity and differences. While I accept that an insurance company must guard against fraud, I would think it not unreasonable that a standard form and common claims procedure could be adopted by insurance companies.

Fortunately I am young enough and capable enough to "do battle" with the companies concerned, although to the credit of two companies they did settle the claims in full and promptly. However, my battle with the DES rumbles on. Yours faithfully, G FENNER, Northbourne Park School, Betteshanger, Deal, Kent, November 17.

## Why it pays to use a project manager

From Miss Carole Gannon  
Sir, The building trade holds pitfalls enough for those of us who deal with it every day. There are enough stories of cowboy builders and bad workmanship, to say nothing of simple building jobs which turn out to be a complete farce, to fill a novel.

It was sad to read of just such a story (*Family Money* November 19). The Levenes wanted a conservatory and ended up paying £30,000 - three times the figure they thought it would cost.

The Levenes should have had a full specification drawn up by an architect, or building surveyor, and a builder could have priced this. Thus they would have had a clearer indication of the total cost from the start. It is wrong to feel that fees for this type of job would be prohibitive, particularly if they can help avoid these types of misunderstandings.

Specialist conservatory companies manufacture and erect the timber and glass which form the main part of a conservatory, but do not enter



into the associated building works. Thus if one installs a window, one would not expect the window manufacturer company to estimate for forming the opening, and painting the woodwork.

The Levenes' story is more one of ignorance than dishonesty on anyone's part. The moral could be to employ a professional from start to finish, then there would be someone else to blame. After all, there are few of us who would dabble in the law with-

out a solicitor, and perhaps there is reason to treat the world of building with the same caution. CAROLE GANNON, Chartered building surveyor, 607 Commercial Road, London E14.

From Mr Robert M. Dossor  
Sir, Tony Levene (November 19) has fallen into the classic consumer trap of not establishing his project's cost before he started, by getting proper fixed quotations in writing

from all his tradesmen and suppliers.

Good products are never cheap and properly managed building jobs are no exception.

The building industry is plagued by "cowboys" and black marketeers which the consumer can easily avoid by employing a builder who is a member of a trade organization, such as the Building Employers' Confederation, which offers an excellent guarantee scheme. This scheme provides for protection and conciliation besides specified completion dates and contract prices.

The builder in a Range Rover could probably afford a decent suit because he offered a prestige service - perhaps Mr Levene would have done better and saved in the long run by choosing the better builder from the start. Yours faithfully, ROBERT M. DOSSOR, Hilltop Construction Ltd, 45 Harefield Road, Sheffield, November 22.

Letters are welcomed, but *The Times* regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns and independent professional advice should be sought.

# TAKE THE WORRY OUT OF WHEN TO INVEST WITH M&G'S UNIT TRUST SAVINGS PLAN

If you had chosen fifteen years ago to save £25 a month in a building society, and had left the interest to accumulate, by 1st November 1988 your total outlay of £4,500 would have built up to £8,562. On the other hand, if you had chosen to save the same amount each month in M&G SECOND GENERAL Trust Fund, you would have built up an investment worth £26,110, an extra £17,548.

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Unit trusts are an excellent method of investing in the various stockmarkets of the world, and are ideal for regular investment over the longer term. They are not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

## FROM £25 A MONTH

### PERFORMANCE FIGURES TO 1 NOV 1988

£25 A MONTH	5 YEARS FROM 1 NOV 1983	10 YEARS FROM 1 NOV 1978	15 YEARS FROM 1 NOV 1973
Amount paid in	1,500	3,000	4,500
M&G Recovery	2,804	10,581	40,823
M&G Dividend	2,513	10,542	30,497
M&G SECOND	2,325	9,119	26,110
Building Society	1,818	4,550	6,562

All performance figures include income reinvested net of basic rate tax. The figures for the M&G Funds are all realisation values. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of Building Society Share Account (Source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). You should remember that past performance is no guarantee for the future.

Your Savings Plan subscriptions go into Accumulation units of the Fund you choose at the price ruling on receipt of payment and net income is automatically reinvested. All the Funds are wider-range investments and are authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986. Detailed information on Recovery, Dividend and Second General is given above. The Rules of the Plan, Scheme Particulars, and the latest annual and half-yearly reports on these funds can be obtained, free of charge, from M&G's Customer Services Department at the address below.

The only charges are those you normally pay with unit trusts - 5% included in the initial price of units and up to 1% annually for management. There are no extra charges for this Savings Plan.

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month under order from me, and debit my account with you from time to time with such payments.

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\*Source: Money Management (October 1988). In respect of a gross premium of £70 per month. Actual maturity value payable on a 25 year with-profit endowment policy maturing on 1st August 1988, having been effected by a male life aged 30 next birthday at normal investment returns shown above relates to periods of high inflation and high investment returns. The past is not necessarily a guide to the future.

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DATE : NOVEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup> 1988.

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LOT N° : 19.

PRICE : £20,900,000.

CATEGORY : 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY WORKS OF ART.

AUCTIONEERS : CHRISTIE'S.



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30,000



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for a successful

[illegible]

## UNLISTED SECURITIES

[illegible]

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Starting index compared with 1975 was up at 78.5 (day's range 78.2-78.5).

**STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES**

Market rates for December 2

	Close	1 month	3 month
New York	1.8430-1.8432	1.8570-1.8590	0.85-0.8490
London	2.2073-2.2073	2.2093-2.2070	0.84-0.8490
Amsterdam	3.6128-3.6238	3.6312-3.6230	2.24-2.24
Frankfurt	37.64-37.64	37.64-37.64	30-31
Copenhagen	12.3891-12.3898	12.3825-12.3847	51/4-51/4
Dublin	1.1976-1.2012	1.1989-1.2008	60-64/60
Geneva	20.928-20.912	20.928-20.912	41/4-41/4
Madrid	265.00-267.16	266.11-267.16	16 1/2-16 1/2
Paris	20.18-20.14-20.42	20.19-20.15-20.23	66-60
Rome	827.35-827.01	827.35-827.01	7-5 1/2
Osaka	11.0258-12.0250	12.0084-12.0250	11/4-1/4
Tokyo	10.9402-10.9501	10.9702-10.9854	4/4-4/4
Frankfurt	11.1250-11.1251	11.1578-11.1578	12-12/60
Tokyo	224.33-225.75	225.33-225.65	11/4-1/4

**OTHER STERLING RATES**

Argentina (austar)	20.0780-20.0440
Australia dollar	2.1294-2.1337
Baharin dollar	0.9565-0.9595
Baharin dollar	0.9565-0.9595
Baharin dollar	0.9565-0.9595
Cyprus pound	0.8373-0.8475
Finland markka	5.7575-5.8125
French franc	10.9-10.9
Hong Kong dollar	14.5050-14.5118
India rupee	27.52-27.72
Israeli dollar	0.8165-0.8165
Malaysia ringgit	n/a
Mexico peso	47.680-48.000
New Zealand dollar	1.75-1.75
Saudi Arabian riyal	0.9125-0.9325
Singapore dollar	3.6201-3.6250
South Africa rand	1.8901
S Africa rand (cont)	4.2159-4.2590

22.59-22.62	15-13%pr	42%-39%pr	CAY 2-Loy Est.
2.000-2.6950	1%-1%pr	1%-5%pr	

[illegible]**MONEY MARKETS**

MONEY MARKETS									
<b>Base Rates % Clearing Banks 13 Finance Hse 12%</b> <b>Discount Market Loans %</b> <b>Overnight High/Low 13 11% 11% Week fixed: 12%</b> <b>1 mth 12% 1 mth 12% 1 mth 12%</b> <b>Buying 3 mth -12 3 mth -12 3 mth -12</b> <b>Selling 3 mth -12 3 mth -12 3 mth -12</b> <b>Prime Bank Rate Discount % 1 mth 12 1/2 1/2</b> <b>Trade Rate (Discount % 1 mth 13 1/2 1/2 5 mth 12 1/2 1/2 12 mth 12 1/2 1/2)</b> <b>1 mth 13 1/2 1/2 3 mth 13 1/2 1/2 5 mth 13 1/2 1/2 12 mth 13 1/2 1/2</b> <b>Interbank (1/4) Overdrafts open n/a close n/a</b> <b>1 mth n/a 3 mth n/a 12 mth n/a</b> <b>1 mth n/a 3 mth n/a 12 mth n/a</b>					<b>EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %</b> <b>Currency 7 day 1 mth 3 mth 6 mth</b> <b>Dollar 8 1/4 9 1/4 9 1/4 9 1/4</b> <b>Call: 8 1/4 9 1/4 9 1/4 9 1/4</b> <b>Swiss franc 4 1/4 4 1/4 4 1/4 4 1/4</b> <b>Call: 4 1/4 4 1/4 4 1/4 4 1/4</b> <b>77 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2</b> <b>Call: 7 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2</b> <b>4 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2</b> <b>Call: 4 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2</b> <b>4 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2</b> <b>Call: 4 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2</b>				

姓名: \_\_\_\_\_ 学号: \_\_\_\_\_  
 班级: \_\_\_\_\_ 姓名: \_\_\_\_\_

**ASAC Authority Bonds (%)**  
 1 mth: 12% 12 2 mth: 12% 12 3 mth: 12% 12%  
 6 mth: 12% 12% 9 mth: 12% 12% 12 mth: 12% 12%  
 18 mth: 12% 12% 24 mth: 12% 12%  
**Shilling Cds (%)** 1 mth: 13-12%  
 6 mth: 13-12% 12 mth: 13-12%  
**Debt Cds (%)** 1 mth: 8-5-40  
 3 mth: 9-30-20 6 mth: 9-30-20 12 mth: 9-40-30

**ECSD**  
 Fixed Rate Starting Exp. Finance: Make-up date: Nov 30, 1988. Agency rates Dec 30, 1988 to Jan 24, 1989.  
 Scheme 1: 13.27 per cent. Scheme 2: 11.1; 13.61 per cent.

**BULLION:**  
 Open: \$423.25-423.75 Close: \$424.50-425.00  
 High: \$424.75-425.35 Low: \$423.25-423.25

**COINS:** Per coin (Ex VAT)  
 Britannia: \$437.00-442.00 (£235.00-238.00)  
 Kruggerand: \$424.00-427.00 (£230.00-230.00)  
 Mapleleaf 1700: \$437.00-442.00 (£235.00-238.00)  
 American Eagle: \$437.00-442.00 (£235.00-238.00)  
 New Sovereigns: \$1000.00-101.00 (£537.75-54.50)  
 Old Sovereigns: \$1000.00-101.00 (£537.75-54.50)  
 Platinum: \$539.75-540.00

### THIRD MARKET

St. Bernard	78	85	.	
Carlton Pk	84	17	.	
Manchester	10	13	.	
St. George	54	7	-1	
St. Joseph	93	96	.	2.3
St. Lawrence	192	200	-1	
St. Michael	106	97	-5	
St. Patrick	35	47	-1	18
St. Peter	16	17	.	
St. Vincent	10	100	.	
St. Xavier	4	4	-1	
St. Yves	48	55	.	
St. Zeno	73	73	.	
St. John	71	73	-1	
St. James	72	74	-1	
St. Mary	73	74	-1	
St. Michael	84	87	-1	2.0
St. Peter	15	20	.	
St. Vincent	23	23	.	
St. Xavier	98	98	.	
St. Yves	84	87	-1	17
St. Zeno	15	20	.	
St. John	23	23	.	
St. James	9	11	-1	
St. Mary	36	41	.	
St. Michael	61	62	.	
St. Patrick	195	205	.	5.4
St. Peter	93	96	.	13
St. Vincent	280	293	-5	1.3
St. Xavier	117	117	.	2.2
St. Yves	143	151	-1	6.7

## INVESTMENT TRUSTS

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## FAMILY MONEY

## Careful planning is essential for a successful second start

Traditionally, retirement has been regarded as synonymous with leisure, a time to rest after an active working life. But, mainly due to the growth of the occupational pension, more people are taking early retirement to start a second, self-employed career.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the likelihood of a person leaving their job early was not high because the pension arrangements made it difficult," says Mr Bernard Ring, general secretary of the Pre-Retirement Association.

Today, it is easier to take a pension from job to job, especially in the public sector, and to make up for lost years with extra voluntary payments.

Mr Michael Miller, for example, who graduated as a mature student at 27, opted to make extra contributions to cover his student years. A university careers adviser, Mr Miller intends to freelance as a careers counsellor.

As Mr Roy Faust, an independent financial adviser who retired early from careers guidance at university and now specialises in advising on early retirement, said: "As soon as you leave a company pension scheme, your family is vulnerable because although you have a pension, you have lost your life insurance cover which goes with it."

In some pension schemes, the cover may be as much as four times the salary. The chances of replacing that life insurance, he adds, may well be diminished because of one's age or state of health.

He also points out that if the person taking early retirement dies, then the surviving spouse is usually left with half the deceased partner's pension.

Because of this he suggests that both partners build up their own pension rights. A private pension plan is tax-efficient since contributions receive tax relief at the top rate, and it is secured in a tax-exempt fund.

"The important thing is to think about the family as a whole," he said. Taking early retirement also means losing company sick pay. Health insurance protects the family

in the event of permanent incapacity but the premiums may well be high for an older person.

Although the pension may be proofed against cost of living increases, it cannot miraculously expand to keep up with a general increase in real earnings.

Mr Miller does not leave his Sheffield University post until April 1, 1990, but he has already prepared a meticulous financial strategy. If everything goes according to plan, he expects to be better off as a private consultant, despite working fewer days a week and taking longer holidays.

His pension from his careers guidance post comes to £7,000 a year or three-eighths of his salary of £19,200 a year. The pension he will receive at 50 represents 29 years' service and includes six and a bit years' enhancement. In addition, he will receive a lump sum of £24,000 as part of his retirement package. The investment income he expects from the £24,000 is £2,000. Thus, taking into account pension plus dividends, he will be £10,000 a year worse off the day he retires.

However, once he leaves the university, his outgoings will reduce substantially. He is using his run-up to retirement to clear two substantial loans for house improvements by increasing the monthly repayments. Both will be paid off when he retires, leaving him nearly £300 a month in pocket. In addition, his superannuation of £101 a month will cease as will the additional voluntary contributions he was making to his pension of £44 a month. Finally, his national insurance payments will drop from £96 to £20 a month. He has reduced his drop in income when he retires from £10,000 to £5,000 a year.

The financial commitments he will be left with every month are the mortgage (£210), rates (£103), gas (£31), electricity (£33), telephone (£16), and water (£19).

As Mr Miller has planned it, even if he does not earn a penny from his new business, his family would not have to



When Mrs Sheila Tyson (pictured above) left teaching at the age of 50, to run a publishing business with her daughter, an inheritance made the prospect of stepping into the great unknown easier.

But she is adamant that if she had had only a £2,500 pension a year and £40 a week Enterprise Allowance for the first year, she would still have left teaching. Without the inheritance, she would have supplemented her pension by private coaching.

Friends tell her they would do the same but for losing their pension rights. "Selling out these last years when you have

the vigour for something else and wait until you're 60?" she asks rhetorically. "Forget it."

Now that her daughters are grown up, Mrs Tyson says she is enjoying her first freedom for years.

"Of course you can't turn your back on the finances of it," she says. "But when I hear people say they would be afraid of a drop in their lifestyle, you have got to measure what you value in that lifestyle."

"If you take expensive holidays twice a year, you are paying for that with your lifeblood in many ways, working every evening and weekend."

The idea for the Potter University Guides which she publishes from home with her daughter came from her experience of helping sixth-formers at Saddleworth, Greater Manchester. She felt the existing guides did not offer an independent view.

She and her daughter Philippa, aged 26, who had only recently graduated from Cambridge, visited every university in England and Wales, reflecting the view of "a young graduate with one foot still in the university world and that of the anxious mother wanting to know where her off-spring was going."

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## Benefits of musical chairs



Mr Mike Routh, aged 54, (pictured left) has swapped his chair in the staff-room as head of the English department at a Sheffield comprehensive school for a piano stool. He now gives private piano lessons.

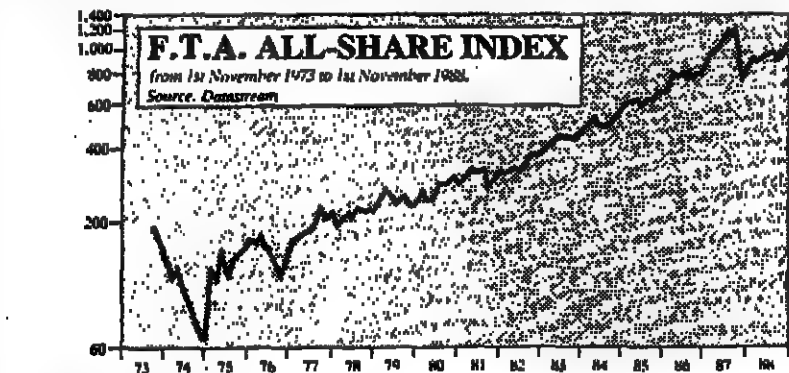
When he took early retirement two years ago he received a generous pension settlement since Sheffield Education Committee offered 10 years' enhancement as an inducement to shed staff. He left the school with half his senior teacher's salary, which was

virtually what he would have received at 65.

His wife Brenda works part-time which helps to supplement the household income. One unexpected bonus from early retirement is that the parental contribution to the university grant for one of his children is much lower.

He is also earning a small income from giving the piano lessons. Indeed, his reason for leaving teaching was to spend more time playing the piano — he plays with a small ensemble.

Peter Morris



## WHEN'S THE BEST TIME TO INVEST?

Quite obviously, the best time to invest in the stock market is when prices are low — after a fall. Because, as a glance at the graph shows, each fall has been followed by a rise. And the overall market trend over the medium to long term has been up. The difficulty is in identifying exactly the right time to invest.

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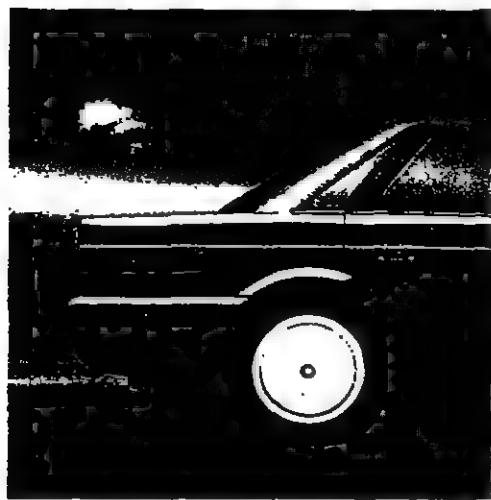
It's undoubtedly extravagant. As Motor magazine observed, the 820e has an "overt touch of plushness absent in many of its rivals."

It shows even in the little luxuries on the 820e. To soothe and amuse, for example, there's a security coded hi-fi system with no less than 6 speakers.

A sunroof is standard (as on all new Rover 800's) along with power steering, central locking and electric front windows.

The driver's seat is adjustable for height and lumbar support. There are remotely adjustable door mirrors plus remote releases for the boot and fuel flap.

And these contemporary conveniences are complemented in Rover tradition by tinted glass, burr walnut veneer and seats as wide as in the 800 flagship, the Sterling.



118 brake horsepower. (That's 120PS.)  
And it won't break the bank.

Yet an 820e costs just over £13,000. So it's hardly an extravagance. Especially when you compare the more expensive, somewhat more basic Mercedes 190E.

Compare its rivals too, for performance. The BMW 520i is also more expensive than an 820e, but not nearly as quick. This fuel injected Rover can do 0-60 mph in 10.0 seconds. (The

BMW takes 11.6 seconds.) And in the right conditions, it has a top speed of 119 mph.

Yet it's still economical. At motorway cruising speeds, the 820e can travel over 540 miles on a single tank. That's further than the whole of the M5 and M6.

It's on such long hauls that the 820e reveals its true Rover qualities. Autocar took one 650 miles from London to Stuttgart. Their 820e whisked them there "in near perfect comfort at a steady 110 mph on the autobahn."

With all this, it's not too surprising that the 820e is seen as a company directors' car. This is flattering for us at Rover, but a little puzzling considering its price.

At £13,185, any businessman can afford a Rover. Easily.



**ROVER 800 SERIES**



● GIANTS OF SKIING 46,47  
● SPORTS BOOK 49  
● RACING 50, 51  
● RORY UNDERWOOD 52

## SPORT &amp; LEISURE

SATURDAY DECEMBER 3 1988

## Graham at a point of no return

By Clive White

In common with several thousand others, George Graham, the Arsenal manager, must have come away from Upton Park in midweek a puzzled man. He had just seen West Ham, with embarrassing ease, do to Liverpool what his own supposedly superior Arsenal team had failed to do in three meetings with the champions in the past month.

It was a defeat which was at the same time both encouraging and discouraging for Arsenal, who go into battle again with Liverpool at Highbury tomorrow in what could be television's most revealing game so far this season.

It is a game of immense importance to both teams after their recent reverses but particularly, perhaps, for Arsenal, whom, one fancies, would gladly swap three points for the psychological benefit of victory over their old adversary. Arsenal have not beaten them since the Littlewoods Cup final two years and seven meetings ago. But doubtless Arsenal would not want to part with the points tomorrow when they could go to the top of the table.

Two consecutive defeats, coming at the end of an unbeaten run of 12 games, would appear to have brought Arsenal to that critical point in the season when their championship hopes suddenly go awry. In each of the last two seasons the story has been the same: solid runs of success followed by equally solid runs of failure.

In 1986-87 they went 17 League games without defeat and then in January hit a run of 10 games without a win. Last season they notched up 10 consecutive League victories but then could only win one in the next 11.

Such sudden loss of form could reasonably be put down to lack of stamina and lack of experience in a side which even now has an average age of only 23. Another explanation, put forward by Arthur Cox, the Derby County manager, last week, was that Arsenal's all-action style tends to take a lot out of young players.

Graham maintains that the problem is more mental than physical. He said: "We're treating them like adults and they're really still quite young. Even some of those who are in the England squad are nowhere near their best. Very few people are the finished article at the age of 21. The last month has taken a lot out of us but they're going to have to learn to handle pressure at the top."

"We've suffered two defeats and everybody is looking for faults. Just because we win 4-1 at Nottingham Forest doesn't mean we're going to win the championship and just because we lose 2-1 at Derby

doesn't mean we're out of the race. We're keeping a nice equilibrium at the club."

It used to be said that the worst time to play Liverpool was immediately after one of those rare defeats. The next opponents were usually made to pay dearly for any momentary lapse by Liverpool from their exceptional standards.

The last time they lost as heavily as 4-1, as they did this week, was against Luton Town two seasons ago. In the next game they scored their biggest victory of the season, lashing the whipping boys of Norwich City 6-2. It remains to be seen whether this Liverpool team possess the same powers of indignation, not to mention recuperation.

By contrast, the Arsenal players have had their first free week since the middle of October. Their comprehensive defeat by Liverpool in the Littlewoods Cup may yet be to Arsenal's advantage. "If only because it eases the burden of their programme. In the last two seasons they have not been out of either of the cup competitions before the sixth round."

Though success at a club like Arsenal can only be gauged by the silverware they win, there can be no doubt that Graham has built a side of which their supporters can be proud. Clubs are more wary these days about renovating the ground before renovating the team, but Arsenal has had sufficient confidence to invest £6.5 million in ground developments this season.

Graham has upset a few people along the way, including some of the club's biggest names, like Nicholas Sansom and O'Leary. He strongly refutes the suggestion that personality clashes were responsible for the demotion of any of them. "I have always picked my teams on merit, regardless of reputation," he said. "I don't believe in prima donnas. I believe in quality players who produce."

It is for this reason, rather than lack of match practice, that Davis will not return to the side tomorrow after completing a nine-match suspension. Graham said: "Richardson's done tremendously well and Davis has got to fight to get his position back. That's how it should be at a top club."

The introduction of three new players in defence has meant that Arsenal have conceded more goals than Graham would have liked this season but this he is prepared to live with so long as they keep going forward and scoring.

Criticized for not giving their championship challenge that extra push by spending the money necessary to bring a top-class goalscorer to Highbury, the team has replied on his behalf by scoring



All smiles: but Graham knows Arsenal's match against Liverpool tomorrow is critical to their championship challenge

## ARSENAL v LIVERPOOL IN THE EIGHTIES

1980  
April 12, Arsenal 0, Liverpool 0 (FA Cup, semi-final)  
April 15, Liverpool 1, Arsenal 1 (FA Cup, semi-final, replay)  
April 19, Arsenal 1, Liverpool 1 (FA Cup, semi-final, second replay)  
May 1, Arsenal 1, Liverpool 0 (FA Cup, semi-final, third replay)  
Oct 26, Liverpool 1, Arsenal 1 (League)

1981  
March 28, Arsenal 1, Liverpool 0 (League)  
Sept 5, Arsenal 2, Arsenal 0 (League)  
Dec 1, Arsenal 0, Liverpool 0 (League Cup, fourth round)  
Dec 8, Liverpool 3, Arsenal 0 (League Cup, fourth round, replay)

1982  
May 11, Arsenal 1, Liverpool 1 (League)  
Sept 4, Arsenal 0, Liverpool 2 (League)

1983  
Jan 2, Liverpool 3, Arsenal 1 (League)  
Sept 10, Arsenal 0, Liverpool 2 (League)

more goals than any other side in the first division. "I'm not worried what other people think," he said. "I know my boys have been very successful. I don't think there's a failure among them."

Certainly one of his most inspired has been Marwood, whom Graham pursued when his interest in Barnes came to nothing. Marwood, who returns to the side after influenza, has been a revelation, providing Smith and Morgan with more chances than they

know what to do with. England might have benefited, too, had they awarded him his first cap earlier than they did last month in Saudi Arabia. "He's been like a breath of fresh air off and on the pitch," Graham said.

"There's a nice feeling going right through the club. The first team are second in the League, the reserves are unbeaten in the Combination and the youth team are second in the South-East Counties. Right from the top it's looking

1984  
Feb 11, Liverpool 2, Arsenal 1 (League)  
Sept 5, Arsenal 2, Liverpool 1 (League)

1985  
Feb 12, Liverpool 3, Arsenal 0 (League)  
Aug 17, Liverpool 0, Arsenal 0 (League)  
Dec 16, Arsenal 2, Liverpool 0 (League)

1986  
Aug 30, Liverpool 2, Arsenal 1 (League)

1987  
March 10, Arsenal 0, Liverpool 1 (League)  
April 5, Arsenal 2, Liverpool 1 (Littlewoods Cup Final)  
Aug 18, Arsenal 1, Liverpool 2 (League)

1988  
Jan 18, Liverpool 2, Arsenal 0 (League)  
Sept 20, Arsenal 2, Liverpool 1 (Marshall's Centenary Trophy, semi-final)  
Nov 2, Liverpool 1, Arsenal 1 (Littlewoods Cup, third round)  
Nov 9, Arsenal 0, Liverpool 0 (Littlewoods Cup, third round, replay)  
Nov 25, Liverpool 2, Arsenal 1 (Littlewoods Cup, third round, second replay)

## Molby to stay at Liverpool

By Ian Ross

Jan Molby, the Danish international, is to remain with Liverpool despite spending six weeks in prison. Molby, aged 25, was released from Preston jail early on Thursday morning after serving half of a three month sentence for reckless driving.

Although John Smith, the Liverpool chairman, admitted that the affair had severely embarrassed the club, he said that Molby will be allowed to remain at Anfield and pick up the threads of his career after showing suitable remorse.

The decision was reached after a two-hour meeting yesterday morning when Molby met with Smith, Peter Robinson, the Liverpool chief executive, and Kenny Dalglish, the team manager.

## Pontypool out of Cup after breach of rules

By Owen Jenkins

Pontypool, the Welsh club champions, have become the first major Welsh club to be eliminated from the Schweppes Cup competition for fielding an ineligible player.

The Welsh Rugby Union in a statement said: "From the evidence at our disposal, Pontypool Rugby Club played an ineligible player, namely Wayne Terry, in the cup tie against Vardre on November 19 and, in accordance with the rules of the competition are eliminated from further participation in the Schweppes Cup competition this season."

Vardre, the junior West Wales club, had protested to the Union over Terry's inclusion after narrowly losing by 10pts to nine, and the Union invited both clubs to put forward their cases. The rules state that no "cup-tied" player is allowed to play for his new

club in the round immediately after his transfer. Terry played for his former club, Llanhilleth, in the first round and was not transferred until after the second round.

Bob Jeremiah, the Pontypool secretary, said: "Llanhilleth RFC had told us that their coach was responsible for granting permits and transfers and their coach also confirmed that their player was not cup-tied."

Pontypool feel they did not breach the spirit of the regulations nor do they consider that Vardre lost the game because of Terry's part in it. But Rod Morgan, chairman of the cup competition committee, said: "The strength of the competition is in the rules and we must abide by them." Both Pontypool and Vardre have called for a review of the rules so that no such case could occur in the future.

## Merger slowdown occupies athletes

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

The annual meeting of the Amateur Athletic Association in London today promises to be lively, with Bill Evans reading an interim report on his draft constitution for a British Athletics Federation, and criticising those factions who, as he put it, "have made the process slower than I would have liked".

It was hoped that a federation of the dozen or more bodies governing athletics could be in place by January 1. One year later is probably the best estimate now.

The Southern Counties, who have taken the initiative

in federal moves, will also try to spike an attempt to get a "complete exclusivity" clause in the new domestic television contract. Some AAA officials want to impose a blackout on events which ITV (present contract holders) do not wish to cover.

Despite the announcement of a profit for the last trading year, compared to last year's deficit, there will be serious questions about a "legal and professional" expenditure of £131,04, of which some £80,000 is understood to be the subject of litigation over a sponsor's introduction fee.

## Waiting for snow

From Iain Macleod, Val d'Isère

The moans and groans could be heard almost immediately the "circus" came to town.

Just down the road, two of the four opening Cup races scheduled last weekend for Val Thorens had to be moved to Schlading, in Austria, one of the few nations with snow.

The warm temperatures and lack of snow did not augur well here. Today's scheduled men's downhill, which was to have been held in Argentina in August, had to be moved to Val Gardena, Italy.

But the uncertainty of the Alpine climate and the swift manner in which a golden

autumnal scene can be transformed into a winter landscape seems to have salvaged the remaining races here. Yesterday's women's downhill proceeded as planned, and the men, who have had two days of just watching and waiting, had their first training run in the afternoon.

Two runs are scheduled today and, if Martin Bell, of Britain, who yesterday, from a start number of 37 finished twentieth, can improve further, there is the prospect of a Briton being to the forefront at the start of the season.

Simon Barnes's Sporting Diary, page 10

## Hlasek is too accurate for the Master in the Garden

From Richard Evans, New York

If he goes on like this, Jakob Hlasek will be joining William Tell in Swiss mythology. Except there is no doubting the reality of Hlasek's tennis achievements over the past five weeks when, almost without exception, he has been able to shoot the apple off opponents' heads with unerring accuracy.

In his first ever appearance in the Masters at Madison Square Garden, the Swiss No. 1 took aim at the reigning Master, Ivan Lendl, and came back from 3-4 down in the final set to beat him 4-6, 6-3, 7-5.

With several hundred untypically vociferous Swiss supporters in the crowd, Hlasek brought the Garden to life and stamped himself as a player who is quite capable of holding his own in elevated company.

"It made me very proud to hear them cheering," Hlasek said, his eyes gleam with

happiness as he walked over to face the large international press corps. "I just felt so relaxed the whole match. It was incredible."

The whole year has been as good as any Swiss fairy tale for Hlasek, beginning with the well documented car crash; the cautious recovery to allow a badly damaged vein in his right wrist to heal and the sudden, eleventh hour assault on a place in the Masters that began with a brilliant victory over John McEnroe on his way to the semi-final of the Paris Open, his first ever grand prix victory at Wembley, another title in Johannesburg and defeat at the hands of Henri Leconte in the final of the Belgian Open.

As a result, Hlasek arrived in New York match tight and bursting with confidence — factors which proved decisive against Lendl who was playing his first grand prix match since the final of the US Open.

"I think I have played 20 matches that have gone to three sets and have won 18 of them," Hlasek said revealingly. "So even when I got behind in the third set, I still felt I could win."

And he won in style. Quite content to stay with Lendl until he could open up a path to the net, Hlasek hit the ball with flowing confidence off the ground, volleyed with tenacious power and served brilliantly throughout.

Lendl, suddenly losing the rhythm on his forehand, got himself in trouble at 3-5 after Hlasek had broken back immediately from 2-4. Then came a point that showed Hlasek's cool determination as well as his physical prowess. Off balance for the first three shots of the rally, on break point, Hlasek steadied himself, slowed the pace to allow time to recover and then, after a furious all-court exchange, finally got the under-slice he was looking for. The ball stayed so low on the Supreme carpet that Lendl's backhand was unable to clear the net. When he served for the match, Hlasek finished it off with an ace.

"He's a great player in the making," Cliff Drysdale, ESPN's television analyst commented. "He is a very similar type to Lendl but in fact he's an even better athlete."

With Mats Wilander beating Leconte in straight sets and Steffen Edberg repeating his Wimbledon triumph over Boris Becker, it means that this quartet's group is still wide open with all four players having won one victory apiece.

## UEFA speaks out on drug test cases

By John Goodbody

UEFA, the European governing body, yesterday entered the controversy over the English footballers who have been sanctioned over positive drug tests for the stimulant ephedrine because the Football Association (FA) accepted the players' explanation that the drug was contained in medicaments for colds.

Marc Tapernoux, the coordinator of the UEFA drug-testing programme, stressed that ephedrine was a banned drug in international football, even if the player claimed he had taken it as part of his treatment for an illness. The FA says out of 700 players tested since 1979 "fewer than a handful, less than five" have been positive.

Tapernoux said: "But we cannot interfere with drug-testing arrangements in a member country. The individual association is in charge of its own competitions. We can only encourage associations to have dope tests. Such a move not to sanction a player makes

the whole procedure less credible."

He added that if any English player were to take such a medicament during a European competition then he would face suspension. He points out that last season, Fontolan, of Verona, tested positive in the UEFA Cup quarter-final after taking a substance, not ephedrine, in a medicament for a cold. The stimulant in question was banned by UEFA but not by the Italian Federation.

Fontolan has been suspended for a year in the first case of its kind in European competitions since regular drug-testing was brought in for all rounds of the three Cups in 1987-88. UEFA first tested for drugs at the 1980 European championship in Italy.

UEFA's statement follows a letter from Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, to the FA asking why the positive cases had not been reported to the Sports Council, as is customary with other national governing bodies.

## January ticket sale

Rome (AP) — The organizers announced yesterday that 2.6 million tickets for the finals of the 1990 World Cup football tournament will go on sale abroad in January and in Italy a month later. Tickets will be available until March 31, 1990; half will be sold in Italy and half abroad.

Luca di Montezemolo, head of the Italian '90 organizing committee, said that buyers must purchase a series of tickets for all matches played in one city. Each buyer will be limited to a maximum of four. The lowest price is 48,000

lire (approx £20) for the cheapest seats in Cagliari, Udine and Palermo, where three matches will be played. The highest is 650,000 lire for the best seats in Naples, which is hosting five games, including a semi-final.

● BERN: Venues for the 1990 finals of the European club tournaments have been announced by UEFA: European Cup final — Barcelona, May 24; Cup Winners' Cup final — Lausanne, May 10; UEFA Cup final — home and away games on May 3 and May 17.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## QUALCAST HOVER-SAFE OWNERS

Continuous product testing has revealed that a limited batch of Qualcast Hover-Safe 12" mowers may have faulty fans. In extreme circumstances they may shatter. In order to ensure excellent performance from our mowers and maximum safety for our customers, we intend to replace the fans of all Hover-Safe 12" mowers in this batch which are affected by the problem. If you own a Hover-Safe 12" with a



You should get one your Hover-Safe 12" until you have checked the serial number and, if it is in the suspect batch, before the fan has been replaced.

serial number between 100,000 and 181,000 (the serial number is situated on the warning label, as illustrated below) you should contact your nearest Qualcast Approved Service Agent who will repair your machine at no cost to yourself. If you require details of your nearest Approved Service Agent please contact us as soon as possible. Write to: QUALCAST GARDEN PRODUCTS FREEPOST DERBY or telephone our Hover-Safe Action Line (0332) 271271 between 9.30am - 7.00pm weekdays. Lines also open this weekend (December 3/4).

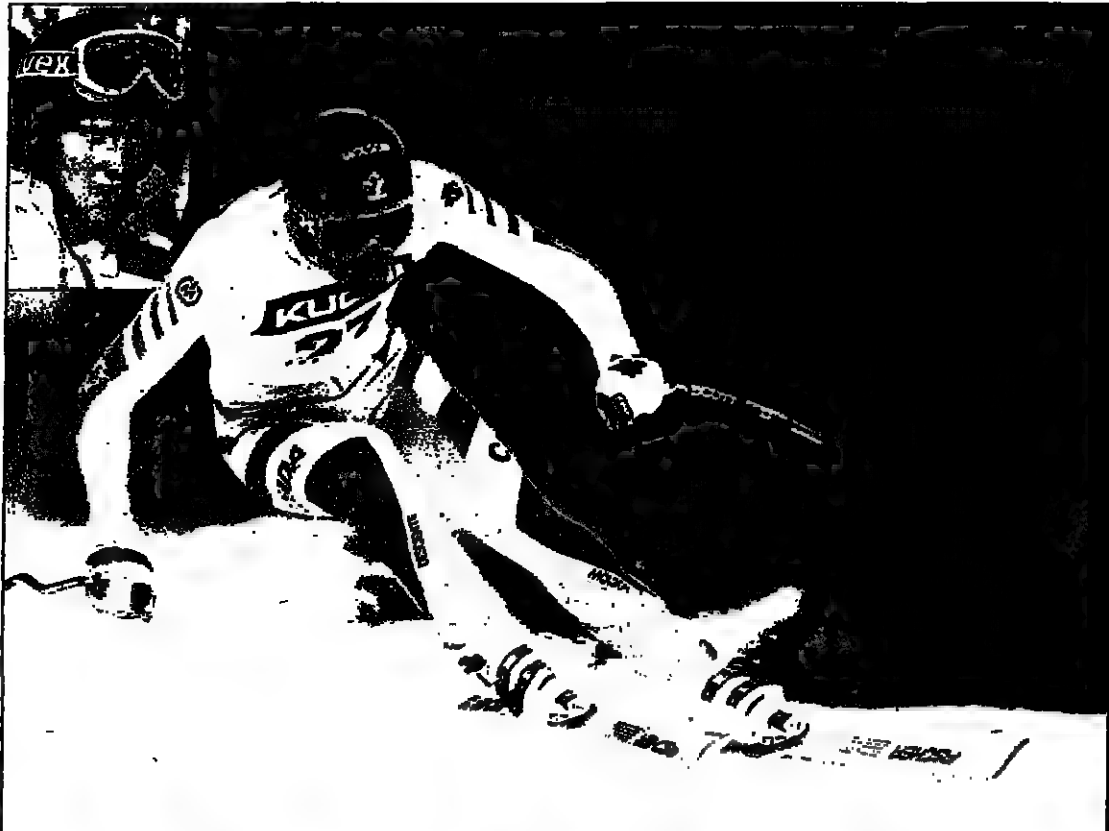
Please note: 1. The Hover-Safe 25, and all other Qualcast mowers, are not affected by this recall. 2. Do not return your Hover-Safe 12" to your local retailer.

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# Going rapidly downhill: skiing's

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALLSPORT



Crazy Canuck: Rob Boyd of Canada landed on his head last year, has high hopes for the World Cup this year



Serene Swiss: Pirman Zärbruggen, current champion, says God protects him when he hurtles down mountains



Fast lady: Michela Figini, defending woman's champion, says of the dangers, 'One bad turn is all it takes ...'



Peter the great: Peter Müller, favourite to retain the world championship title, is Zärbruggen's deadliest rival

The ultimate test of skier and mountain starts this weekend.

Iain Macleod reports

There are few more stirring or awe-inspiring sights in sport than a skier hurtling at speeds of more than 60mph on a precipitous two-mile downhill course. Downhill skiing attracts a special breed. But however good the technique, however fine the co-ordination of mind and body, it requires only a momentary lapse of concentration for all to go awry. The lucky ones escape with bruises.

This weekend the supreme test of skier-man versus mountain starts in Val d'Isère, when the world's best downhill racers join season-long combat for the coveted World Cup title. The extended joust, the most dangerous competition in the sport, will take the skiers on a tour of the jagged peaks of two continents: the Old World in December and January, the North American resorts in February.

There is an added attraction in the shape of the world championships in Vail, Colorado, this season. But for many skiers the financial reward from a world title in Vail will be secondary to the satisfaction of winning the gruelling campaign for World Cup supremacy.

Downhill racers have long been characterized as wild men with unconventional lifestyles. Yet the present World Cup and Olympic champion, Pirman Zärbruggen, is a quiet, deeply religious man of almost boyish innocence.

Having won every major honour and amassed earnings of about £1.5 million, he speaks with heartfelt sincerity when he claims God protects him each time he hurtles down the side of a mountain.

Zärbruggen lives with his family in the small village of Saas Almagell in the Valais

Continued on facing page

For me, it was **NICKLAUS'** fifth win in '75;  
in probably the greatest **MASTERS** of all time.

OK, sure, but the *real* turning point in golf  
was **JACKLIN'S BRITISH OPEN** victory at **LYTHAM**.

How can you ignore **SEVE'S** brilliant performance  
in the '84 **OPEN** at **ST. ANDREWS**?



Some **CLASSICS** are beyond debate.





# giants of the White Circus

Continued from facing page

region of Switzerland. His business affairs are handled by his agent, Marc Biever: the one over concession to commercial success is a £30,000 white Mercedes.

But the danger presented by his chosen sport is never far away. Zürbigen's father, Alois, was a keen skier in his younger days who saw his younger brother killed in a fall. Alois never returned to the slopes.

The families of everyone in the sport know the risks. "One bad turn is all that it needs," says Michaela Figini, of Switzerland, the women's defending champion. Last season Figini suffered a spectacular and horrifying crash within reach of the finish of the demanding Leukerbad course, yet somehow managed to walk her body in the direction of the line and, astonishingly, won the race.

eter Müller, another Swiss racer and Zürbigen's greatest rival, did not escape so lightly. In 1981 he seemed about to add to his laurels one of the sport's two classic downhill, the Lauberhorn at Wengen.

The Lauberhorn is the oldest and longest race on the calendar and one of the most picturesque, with the Eiger and the Jungfrau offering a spectacular backdrop. Müller's fall occurred within yards of success, at one of the sport's most awesome finishes, and made for some of the year's most compelling television sport.

"I ran a great race," he recalls. "I had the fastest intermediate time and I was sure I was going to win. But I had a big jump, sat back on the skis, and the next thing I was in the straw bales."

Müller will be strongly favoured to retain his world title at the world championships, which begin at the end of January. Before that comes one of the showpieces of the sport, the Hahnenkamm at Kitzbühel. "You must be just a little bit more crazy to win at Kitzbühel," Müller remarked with a smile.

The Hahnenkamm is unrivalled for its dramatic descent. The Tyrolian resort is the ultimate test for any downhiller: a concentrated

display of skill, strength and courage.

For Müller it exemplifies what sport is all about. "I think it is a great feeling," he says. "The racing itself is exhilarating. You must know whether you are fast or slow, and why — it takes only one mistake."

And, lest anyone doubts the menace posed by the mighty Streif course, the Canadian Todd Brookner two years ago offered a chilling example of the fine dividing line between this world and the next. Brookner suffered an appalling fall which saw him cartwheel 90 yards into the safety fence. Although he recovered, he has never raced again.

The Canadians are a special breed of skier. They have long exuded the traditional downhill image of wild men and wild parties. Men like Brookner, Ken Read and Steve Podborski are not for nothing known affectionately as the "Crazy Canucks".

Now a new generation of Canucks has emerged. Rob Boyd, an amiable 21-year-old from Whistler Mountain, British Columbia, competes in the best tradition of Canadian downhillers: all or nothing. "Really," he says, speaking of Wengen with the impudence of youth, "the only test there is endurance."

Boyd landed on his head during a training run at Åre in Sweden last year. A suspected cracked vertebra did not materialize, and neither did his real form in Calgary. Boyd, like Müller, places more value on securing the World Cup title. "You have to win three, four or five races and then you are the best."

None the less, the one-off demands of a world championship bring their own sense of occasion. A world title could be worth a million dollars to the victor. Another Zürbigen-Müller one-two, as in Calgary, cannot be discounted — though not necessarily in that order. It is not insignificant that the 1982 Olympic champion, Bernhard Russi of Switzerland, who co-designed the Calgary course with its twists and turns and steep 75-degree slope at the top, also constructed the world championship course at Beaver Creek.

The course has a unique concept: a tunnel, 135 metres long with three banked turns, not dissimilar to what one might find on a bobsleigh run.



Take-off time: Martin Bell opens his season tomorrow with the downhill at Val d'Isère

## THE BRITISH CHALLENGERS

### A TEAM

**MARTIN BELL (Age 23):** The nation's best-ever skier. Short to prominence when he finished fifth, sixth, eighth and tenth in World Cup downhills in 1986, placing seventh overall. Finest moment at the Olympic Games in Calgary, where his eighth place was the best ever by a Briton.

**GRAHAM BELL (21):** Brother of Martin Bell; career marred by injury. Achieved Britain's best-ever result by winning a silver medal in the downhill at the 1984 world junior championships. A broken collarbone and torn ligaments the following year restricted his progress. Has worked hard to regain fitness and form and was rewarded last season with tenth place in the Lauberbad downhill.

**LESLEY BECK (24):** Britain's top female skier. Versatile performer whose strengths lie in slalom and giant slalom. Emphasized her potential when she finished tenth in the 1987 world championship slalom at Crans Montana. Finished in thirteenth and sixteenth places in World Cup slaloms last year.

**RONALD DUNCAN (25):** Has twice won the British downhill title and was a member of the senior squad in 1980. Suffered from injury last season and finished a disappointing 38th in the Calgary downhill.

**VALERIE SCOTT (21):** Competent all-round performer who has achieved her best result in 1986 when she won a FIS giant slalom in Les Arcs. Like Beck, her strongest disciplines are slalom and giant slalom; Britain No 2.

## WORLD CUP CALENDAR

December 4: *Ski Sunday* from Val d'Isère (men and women).  
December 11: *Ski Sunday* from Val Gardena (men with coverage of women's events in Crans Montana).  
December 16: *Ski Sunday* (coverage of men's events in Kranjska Gora and women's events in Altenmarkt).  
December 22: *Ski Sunday* from Saint Anton (men).  
January 8, 1989: *Ski Sunday* from Garmisch (men, with coverage of women's events in Meiringen).  
January 15: *Ski Sunday* from Kitzbühel (men).  
January 22: *Ski Sunday* from Wengen (men).  
January 28: *Ski Sunday* world championships preview.  
February 4: Live coverage from Val of world championship men's downhill.  
February 5: *Ski Sunday* from Val — world championships.

## A Figini first in snowfall

From Iain Macleod, Val d'Isère

As Val d'Isère yesterday woke to find snow falling heavily, the organizers of the 33rd Criterium de La Première Nieve breathed a huge sigh of relief. But as the snow was unexpected, the same could not be said of Michaela Figini's victory in the opening World Cup women's downhill of the season.

The Swiss World Cup champion remained unperturbed by the snow, mist and varying conditions along the length of the course, to win in style the eleventh downhill of her career.

Figini completed the 1,867 metres of the O-K piste in 1min 11.58sec, her margin of victory a comfortable 0.21 seconds ahead of Regine Moserlechner, of West Germany. Another German, Michaela Gerg, was third.

The transformation in the weather was remarkable: the near autumnal conditions of the previous day had given way to persistent flurries of snow which, Figini remarked, "was not a problem".

On the evidence of her four training runs the late starters

were in the most advantageous positions. Figini, however, was determined, even from an early start number of five, to ensure that any advantage gained by the non-seeded racers would be nullified by her own performance which, in the event, was courageous and technically superb.

Figini said conditions were better than they appeared: "There was mist in the Mead-ows (the top part) but visibility was not a problem," she said. "I saw everything."

She refused, though, to be intoxicated by the scent of victory. "This is only the first race," she emphasized. "It doesn't mean so much. It's a long season and many things can change."

Perhaps so. But having overcome a series of minor injuries which last season hindered her Olympic preparations, Figini, who finished ninth in last Saturday's super giant slalom, has indicated that her desire for success is stronger than ever.

Figini, intriguingly, puts her new-found confidence down to Ewald Meier, a recent addition to the Swiss coaching staff.

Meier is officially listed as the "magnetopath", someone who apparently specializes in supernatural healing methods by use of the hands. What his precise function is, no one seems to know, but he "cured" Franck Piccard, of France, prior to winning the Olympic super-G title, and his influence seems to have given Figini a new lease of life.

RESULTS: 1. M Figini (Switz), 1:11.58; 2. R Moserlechner (W Ger), 1:11.79; 3. M Gerg (W Ger), 1:11.84; 4. C Meier (Aust), 1:12.05; 5. K Gerg (Aust), 1:12.14; 6. M Zurbigen (Switz), 1:12.26; 7. A Sackeder (Aust), 1:12.31; 8. K Sackeder (Aust), 1:12.32; 9. C Bourmestre (Switz), 1:12.33; 10. U Schwaiger (W Ger), 1:12.34; 11. C Ennert (Fr), 1:12.35; 12. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.36; 13. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.37; 14. A Wecher (Aust), 1:12.38; 15. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.39; 16. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.40; 17. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.41; 18. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.42; 19. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.43; 20. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.44; 21. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.45; 22. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.46; 23. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.47; 24. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.48; 25. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.49; 26. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.50; 27. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.51; 28. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.52; 29. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.53; 30. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.54; 31. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.55; 32. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.56; 33. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.57; 34. S Gerg (Aust), 1:12.58; 35. 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## SPORTS BOOK OF THE WEEK

# A jockey's guide to diplomacy

Steeplechasing is fraught with danger, and not just on the course. As Peter Scudamore, four times champion jockey, explains, owners need careful handling too

I walk into the parade ring for the first ride of the day, and I have an owner who smirks knowingly and confidently: "This one will win." I sigh inwardly and try to remain impassive. I have heard it so often before, and such exaggerated confidence is usually the prelude to a shattering disappointment for all concerned. I take no notice now whenever an owner or a trainer says something along those lines. I have never yet ridden a sure thing and I don't suppose I am ever likely to. Those who brag that their horses are "certainties" are invariably covering up their own insecurity and seeking a show of reassurance from the jockey. I'm afraid I no longer oblige. The most I like to hear in the way of encouragement before a race is something more modest such as: "This one jumps well and has a really good chance."

The majority of owners will have a punt on their horse, whether in fun, interest or serious belief. There is, however, a difference between the average man having a modest £10, £20 or even £50 on his horse and the genuine gambling owner — the man who has assessed that this will be his day and has staked a fortune, which frequently he cannot afford. Every jockey will occasionally be confronted by this predicament. When it does happen, it is assuredly best to be unaware of it until the race is over.

There are, of course, gamblers who cannot resist telling their jockey, while standing in the parade ring, exactly how much money they have invested in his abilities. With some this is mere bravado, with others a cover for their nerves or their underlying lack of confidence. Whatever the motive, it is of absolutely no help to the poor jockey, who has enough to worry about in trying to win the race without the pressure of knowing the extent of the fortune wagered on his success. Inevitably, if the horse is beaten and the owner left virtually broke, the rider will fear that he is somehow to blame for this plight, no matter how good a race he may have ridden. It is much more acceptable when an owner tells his jockey that he has backed his horse each way and is very keen to finish in the frame. That knowledge can be useful: if the horse is tired and has no chance of winning, a jockey may be more inclined to give him a hard race in the hope of salvaging third place if he knows it will please the owner.

Straight after a race we meet up again with the connections, hopefully in the winner's enclosure but more often in that nomadic area, a little detached from the celebrations, where the also-rans unsaddled. It is at this point that the jockey should have something useful to say. I try never simply to tell an owner that his horse is useless. There are jockeys who have done this with brutal frankness, and while some of them have been among the most successful at their job, I am certain that it must have cost them rides. You have to remember that the great majority of jump-racing owners are in the game for fun, for the social side and for something to talk about with their friends. Many of them have utterly false impressions about the prospects of their 'pet' racehorses, but I do not consider it a jockey's duty to disillusion them; if anyone is to do that it should be the trainer. The other factor against dismissing a horse as useless is, of course, that the animal is then sure to prove you a fool the very next time he runs!

Owners who have been disappointed by a poor showing are invariably hoping that the jockey will offer an excuse that they can then pass on to all the friends and family who had been firmly advised that the horse would win. This, of course, can be hard. The truth is that horses are not machines: at whatever level they are competing they cannot win all the time, and the reason for a bad run may simply be that the horse was feeling off-colour.

The furthest I may go in condemning a horse is to say that he is basically slow, that he is a poor jumper, or maybe that he gave me no 'feel', that term beloved by jockeys that is a

mystery to people outside the game but an intangible attribute of all decent racehorses. It is for me to advise the owner and trainer how his horse should best be ridden in future engagements (whether or not I keep the ride), and to suggest what distance, type of course and standard of race to aim for. If I say that a horse "might win a little better at Bangor-on-Dee", that is as close as I can go to implying that the horse is no good. Some owners are horrified by such advice, but all I can say is that it is meant constructively and intended to be mutually beneficial — after all, if I am going to continue riding a particular horse, I want it to be placed in a grade where it has a chance of providing me with a winner.

The opposite danger, in these ritualistic post-mortems, is to tell an owner that he has a world-beater on his hands. Buoyed up by the emotion of a decent win, and deluded by the back-slapping atmosphere, it is all too easy to go overboard in the horse's praise without having had the opportunity to weigh up all the factors (was he a lucky winner? what was the standard of the opposition? is his jumping likely to find him out? — and a dozen other complications). No matter how impressed I may be on jumping off a horse, I always try to keep my feet, and the owner's, on the ground.

There are times, inevitably, when I come back in the full knowledge that I have made a mess of things, that for some reason I have made an error in the course of the race and that, even if it has not cost the chance of victory, it has meant the horse running some way below his optimum. I have tried diligently to cut out my mistakes and I believe that each season I have eliminated a little more margin for error. But racing is all about split-second decisions; jockeys are not robots, and all of us will occasionally ride a stinker of a race. If you are worth your salt you will always know when you have done so, and you will always feel bad about it. I certainly brood when I am aware that I have ridden badly, and I dislike getting off the horse to be told what I did wrong — in my view, it is unnecessary. Days like those end for me with a mood of depression, a thoughtful journey home, a regrettable snappiness with my wife and an evening of self-recrimination. You might think that I have been riding long enough to have got beyond this by now, but I promise you that my depressions are every bit as black as when I started out. Thankfully, it only needs a winner to put me right again.

## The biggest jump: from sauna to cold shower

There are presently 44 courses in Britain staging National Hunt racing. They are as diverse, surely, as any comparable group of sporting venues in the world, ranging from the austere and imposing Ascot to the uniquely homespun Cartmel, from the grandeur and atmosphere of Cheltenham to the rustic, welcoming charm of Sedgfield. Peter Scudamore has ridden at 43 of the courses, his single omission being Edinburgh, which was adapted only recently from an all-flat racing course. Of contemporary jockeys, his experiences and sheer volume of rides around the country put him in a unique position to judge and comment upon the good, the bad and the ugly aspects of Britain's racecourse circuit. Here is a reflection of his opinions on courses large and small...

### ASCOT

Frankly, I used to detest the place. As a steeplechase course I felt it had grave shortcomings and as a venue for National Hunt racing I found it both soulless and unwelcoming. To my young eyes, the bowler hats on the heads of the gentlemen seemed to have endowed these gentlemen with an arrogance of the most condescending kind; more than once I considered them unnecessarily rude and obstructive to jockeys and trainers going about

### BANGOR

Not long ago, my schedule took me to Kempton Park on one day and Bangor-on-Dee the next. It was like being on two different planets. At Kempton, the facilities for jockeys are grade one at Bangor, there is not a grade to describe them. I recall sitting there between races, looking around me in the

shack which passes for a weighing room, and wondering whether the leading professionals in any other sport would tolerate such conditions. You would not want to stand in the shower area at Bangor for long unless you were happy to risk pneumonia, but very few jockeys have any great objections to riding there because Bob Davies, himself a distinguished former champion, has applied his experience to the clerk of the course's job and made it a very fair track. The sight of spectators standing on grass banks rather than on terraces and grandstands, however, is one of the quaintest in racing. There is still no stand of any sort at Bangor; it would probably spoil the atmosphere if there were.

### DONCASTER

I do not often go to Doncaster, and I am not sorry. It is without doubt one of my least favourite racing venues, for a variety of reasons. To deflate any accusations of southern bias, I have to say that I am extremely glad this course is not in the south. It probably suffers, as do certain other courses in the area, from a flat-racing bias — so strong in this case that I have taken to wondering why they bother to stage National Hunt racing at all. There is no feel for the winter game at Doncaster, and

by the things done and said at the course I can only assume they hold jump racing in very low regard. There is seldom much of a crowd here, the atmosphere is among the worst I have encountered and, although they have a potentially outstanding hurdles course, the steeplechase course is abysmal. The fences were widely thought to be extremely poor, although there have been some recent improvements, and the ground usually rides fast. Altogether, Doncaster is a waste of what could be a high-class jumping stage.

### NEWBURY

This is my idea of the most impressive track in the country, and is certainly my personal favourite among the major courses. It presents a challenging test of stamina but is a scrupulously fair course where there are seldom any acceptable excuses for defeat. The fences are expertly built and I particularly like the way the ditches are built with banking rather than those intimidating boards in front of them that are favoured by many other courses. Two fences cause problems — the cross fence, farthest from the stands, which is on a downhill gradient, and the final ditch in the straight, where horses are frequently casualties through sheer fatigue. The facilities for jockeys

are adequate considering the buildings are all very old; there are good changing rooms, showers and, most important, a sauna. As I mentioned earlier, I strongly believe that this should be a statutory facility on every course.

### PLUMPTON

More than once at Plumpton I have come back to the weighing room with such a sense of frustration that I have begun to wonder just how long my career would have lasted if every meeting were run here. In all probability I would have retired years ago. Courses like this are no stage for jockeys to show their skills; all too often you are in a field of bad horses all travelling too fast for their own or anyone else's good, plenty of them ridden by riders who are either foolish, incompetent or — in some cases — both. One might say that this is not the fault of Plumpton, simply of the horses which run there and those responsible for putting up the jockeys. But I genuinely loathe riding there over fences. The worst was the first down the hill; indeed, these form one of the major accident black-spots of the country. I seldom get good rides at Plumpton, which might add fuel to my feelings, but I honestly believe it to be one of the most unpleasant riding courses in the south.

urge to prove myself while John and Jonjo were still around. In a sense, I had done it in 1981-82; most racing people said that I was the real champion that year, and John was good enough to make the public gesture which stated that opinion louder than anyone.

I raced to 120 winners with a month of the season still to run. I had only to stay fit to be certain of taking the championship from Francombe. But, of course, I didn't. I broke my arm at Southwell at the end of April and had to sit around in mental agony while John travelled the length and breadth of the country to draw level with me and then, in a remarkable show of sportsmanship I am not sure I could have matched, called it a day with the title shared. I had a lot of time on my hands then, and I did a great deal of constructive thinking.

Francombe had never been a hero of mine, only because I was more attracted by riders in the mould of Biddlecombe and O'Neill who could produce a driving finish. John never had that, at least in his early years, and it was only when I came up against

him as a formidable opponent that I became fully aware of the range of qualities he possessed. In the technicalities of race-riding — putting horses in the optimum position, putting them right as the obstacles, and producing them for the vital burst at the most beneficial moment — he was unrivalled, and surely as good as there has ever been.

I never felt that it was impossible for me to be champion while John was riding, but this was certainly a minority view. Everyone else in the game seemed to accept that he was champion for as long as he wanted to be. He was the senior statesman of the sport, a man apart, living on an entirely different plane to the rest of us. The man in the street with only a passing interest in racing would not have known me — or any other jump jockey for that matter — but everyone knew John, his face, his voice and his achievements.

In a way, his retirement created extra pressure for me. With John out of the way, I immediately felt I ought to be champion, and that if I failed now there would be no excuses left. There was no possible

fear of my losing any will to win once his rivalry had ended. I was never going to be satisfied with being champion once, twice or even three times. I wanted to win it as many times as John, and more, not through any unworthy wish to put him down but for my own selfish satisfaction. Different people have different motives for playing sport; I ride because I want to go on winning the title and winning major races.

John, I suspect, was never so single-minded. His interests have always been diverse, his active brain ever ready to dream up another enterprise totally outside racing. Perhaps he is a more complete person for this facility, but there is no denying that we are very different in characters. We were friends because we spent so much time together as fellow jockeys; but we had virtually nothing in common other than a talent for riding winners. This is not to say that I found anything to dislike in him. On the contrary, I consider John to be one of the most amusing companions I have ever met, a master at lifting the mood of a weighing room or a party with the telling of a joke.

The most striking single difference between us is in what we say — or, in my case, what I don't say. John has often accused me of taking life too seriously, of being too solemn and intense, but it never occurred to me that I was enjoying myself less than anyone else; we simply had our own ways of showing it. What John thinks, he usually says, often with wickedly funny embellishments. I am the opposite, anxious not to offend by telling anyone what I think of them. In this, John is a rarity. He is so open with his opinions and criticism that one could not be blamed for thinking that he might be short of friends and supporters by now; that he is not is a result of his being good enough at his job and engaging enough as a person for people to forgive anything that might have been considered an impertinence, taking it in the spirit intended.

I often wondered what John really thought about me when I emerged as a tangible threat to his position. Other than perhaps thinking me a bit dull, though, it is possible that he may not have given me very much thought at all. With his chip shop business, his newspaper columns and his various other outside interests, racing and jockeys did not dominate his mind as they have always dominated mine. John would be good at whatever he turned his hand to — a naturally gifted man.

These articles are taken from *Scudamore on Steeplechasing* by Peter Scudamore and Alan Lee (Partridge Press, £12.95).



Scudamore: "The great majority of jump-racing owners are in the game for fun, for the social side and for something to talk about. Many have utterly false impressions about the prospects of their 'pet' racehorses, but I do not consider it a jockey's duty to disillusion them"



The laboratory inherits the problem. "The form in which they are generally used means that amounts are released gradually into the horse's system," says Moss.

The difficulty is that we are not always absorbed at the same rate, for any number of reasons, and so the results of the tests can vary if taken over a period of time. It is possible to get a negative between positives when the degradation of the substance present becomes too small to detect."

How does Moss view the future? "It is a race without a winning post but at the moment we have the situation well in hand," he says.

"I can understand the argument that the would-be donor will have a more fruitful mission because he has the greater profit at stake, but against

"Of course, you can never be completely certain about what may happen, but I think that racing in Britain is exceptionally clean."



100

**Estimate**

in Sandown's Crownco Cha-

1. The first group of authors (see Table 1) has been concerned with the effects of the environment on the development of the child. The second group of authors (see Table 2) has been concerned with the effects of the environment on the development of the adult. The third group of authors (see Table 3) has been concerned with the effects of the environment on the development of the elderly. The fourth group of authors (see Table 4) has been concerned with the effects of the environment on the development of the child and the adult. The fifth group of authors (see Table 5) has been concerned with the effects of the environment on the development of the elderly and the adult. The sixth group of authors (see Table 6) has been concerned with the effects of the environment on the development of the child and the elderly. The seventh group of authors (see Table 7) has been concerned with the effects of the environment on the development of the child and the adult and the elderly. The eighth group of authors (see Table 8) has been concerned with the effects of the environment on the development of the child and the adult and the elderly. The ninth group of authors (see Table 9) has been concerned with the effects of the environment on the development of the child and the adult and the elderly. The tenth group of authors (see Table 10) has been concerned with the effects of the environment on the development of the child and the adult and the elderly.

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14-1); 4, Grunty Lane (C Prince, 14  
ALSD RAN; 5, Natural Sackin  
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20 Consumption, Rummy Cracker, 30  
25 Clopton, 33 Country Jenny, Soldier  
Destiny, Airborne Deal, O'Neills, 20  
7, 14k, 41, 41, 4, O O'Well at Chatterin  
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**Nicholson in fine form with treble**  
David Nicholson, among the winners at Sandown with Bigsun, completed a treble with Another Coral and Waterlily Boy justified favouriteism Bangor.  
Another Coral, far too head

The 6-4 favourite came through with flying colours, joining issue when they sprinted from the third last and finished wearing down Blue Bourbon in the last few strides to win by **lengths**.

Nicholson sent Another Con to the races six times and in

It was his second consecutive success and Jamie Osborn riding his first winner for Nicholson and his tenth of the season, reported that he was always confident of beating Blenheim.

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Waterloo Boy won the Band Wood Novices' Handicap Chase by 10 lengths.

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Nicholson and Osborne completed their Bangor double with Waterloo Boy won the Bangor Wood Novices' Handicap Chase by 10 lengths.

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## OUTDOOR LEISURE

# Net gains in the winter sunshine

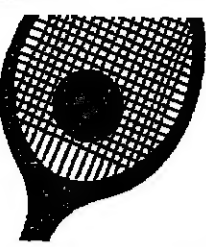
**W**e were a disparate lot, with not much in common apart from a shared desire to continue that British obsession with tennis beyond the two weeks of Wimbledon-watching.

With the help of Roger Taylor, a former Davis Cup player and three times Wimbledon semi-finalist, we were determined to improve our game. As he stretched and bent, 32 bodies of varying age and suppleness, tried to shadow his exercises, despite protesting groin muscles.

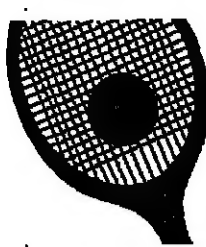
As Roger showed the way, John, the Lloyd's broker; Gary, the financial director of an American chemical company; Suzie and Charlotte, two teenage Yorkshire schoolgirls; Peter, the Midlands tyre manufacturer; myself, and my son, Adam, aged eight, strained to his command.

The lack of facilities in Britain, especially those suitable when winter comes, was a prime reason for my choosing a tennis training week in the more welcoming Portuguese climate at the Roger Taylor Tennis Centre, Val-de-Lobo, in the Algarve.

The prospect of unlimited play in warm October sunshine would be a lure in itself, the programme put together by Taylor also offered a general fitness routine and 15 hours of intensive coaching which aims to provide everyone, from raw beginner to accomplished club player, advice to improve their game.



**Peter Davenport**  
on the Wimbledon  
star who helped  
polish his skills to



enjoy a late-flowering passion for playing tennis

Now 40 years old, I had never played tennis until a few years ago; at school we were pushed towards team sports such as rugby, football and cricket. Tennis clubs had a "class" image which meant they were not exactly on every street corner in the pit village where I grew up.

It was a chance meeting in Torquay with a talented club player that set off my love affair with the game. He taught me enough basic skills to bring enjoyment from being on court and the desire to improve. Since then I have played almost obsessively, in all weathers and on courts in many parts of the country.

Like any sports enthusiast, you can reach a level of sufficient ability to draw pleasure from your game under your own tuition; at some stage, however, if you are to move beyond that, you need to submit to the more perceptive eye of a professional coach.

Each morning began with a run through the pine woods around the tennis centre, with its 12 courts, half of

them floodlit, led by Julian, a former stockbroker turned tennis coach. A series of exercises to stretch the muscles most needed in the game followed. They are simple to remember and can be done daily at home.

Taylor, a skilled and patient teacher, is assisted by selected coaches and the large group breaks down on a ratio of eight players to one coach. Under the warm sunshine the strokes of the day are demonstrated before being put into practice.

In the five days of the course we covered basic forehand and backhand groundstrokes, a variety of serving techniques, slice, top-spin, volleying at the net, high and low lobs and smashes.

One of Taylor's coaching methods is the use of a video camera to record everyone's efforts. During every morning session each group trooped into a viewing room to see their efforts on the screen. There was no escape.

As often happens, concentrating so hard on the correct way to play makes

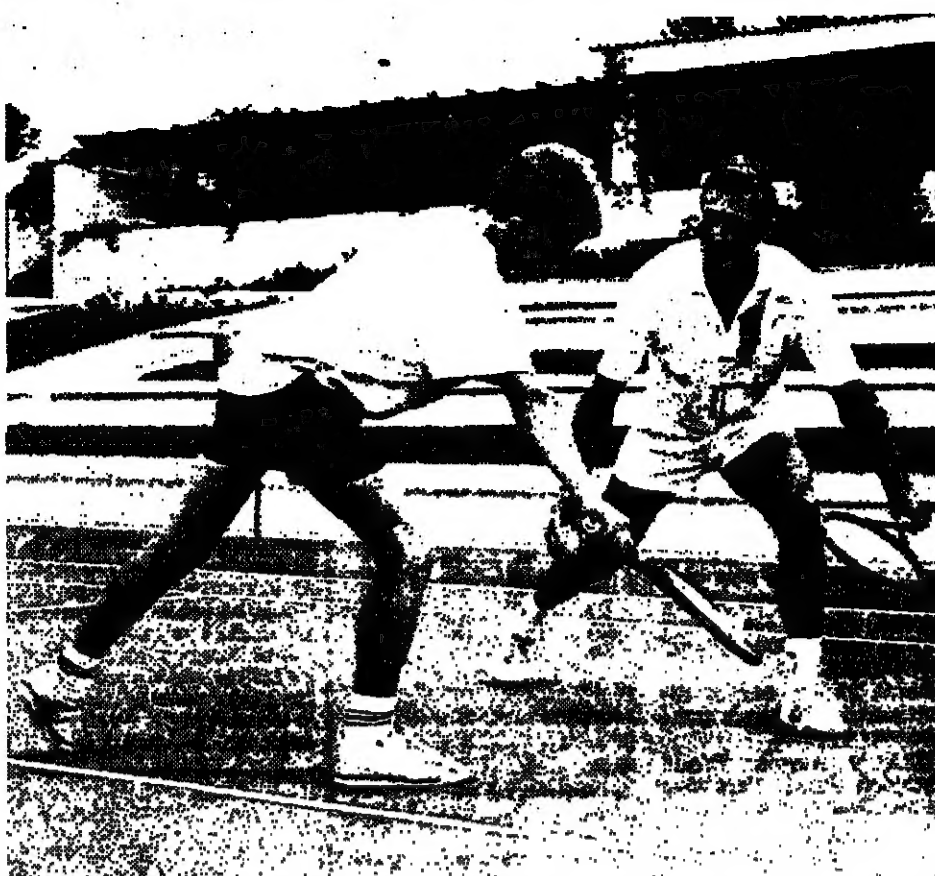
your game seem worse than before you arrived. But when you do hit well a stroke that had previously eluded you, the elation is marvellous. For me, learning a sliced second serve, sending the ball swerving away from my opponent's outstretched racket, and changing my grip to improve a backhand that was almost non-existent were the most pleasing benefits.

At the end of the week I think we all gained something which would improve our game; even Adam, the youngest on the course, was particularly pleased that he learned to serve "properly", something it had taken me years to master and which I had singularly failed to teach him. Above all it was, as all sport should be, good fun and a bridge across the barrier of class, age and sex.

It's not going to turn me into a Wimbledon champion, but that wasn't the point. The extra knowledge and professional advice will increase my pleasure from a game I regretfully adopted too late.

And Adam? Well, he has certainly begun to take an indecent pleasure out of thumping the ball past his father!

● Tennis training weeks at Val-de-Lobo run throughout the year and range in price from £35 to £165 depending on dates chosen. They include 15 hours' coaching and unlimited court play. Roger Taylor Tennis Holidays will also arrange flights and accommodation, which is, of course, extra.



Master class: Roger Taylor coaches a young pupil in the finer techniques of the game

## Costa Storm

### WEATHER EYE

**W**hile most of Britain was dry and sunny last month, the weather in the Mediterranean region was grim. Killer floods in the Barcelona region were followed by torrential rain in the Algarve and the Côte d'Azur and Italy were swept by exceptionally cold weather.

The reason for this topsy-turvy weather was that there was often an anti-cyclone over the British Isles. The effect of this high-pressure area was to divert the depressions that usually dominate our winters.

They thus headed either north over Iceland and down across Scandinavia and eastern Europe to the Adriatic, or south to the western Mediterranean.

This combination of events highlights the fundamental meteorological mechanism: when one geographical region experiences abnormal weather, it is likely that adjacent regions will have equivalent opposite extremes. Because every now and then stationary high-pressure regions tend to form near Britain, it is not that unusual for the Mediterranean to be hit by bad weather while it is settled here.

So these events are in part a reflection of a more basic climatic pattern, that of the weather in the Mediterranean

undergoing a complete shift between the summer and winter halves of the year. From November to April the Mediterranean region is often stormy and sometimes cold. In recent years Athens, Jerusalem, Tunis and the Costa Blanca have experienced at least one heavy snowfall.

This climatological change is so fundamental it is recognised in historical analysis. Fernand Braudel, in his work on the Mediterranean world in the age of Philip II defined winter as the season of peace and plans, when the weather imposed a truce on warring nations both on land and at sea. He cites frequent examples of commanders who mounted campaigns in winters, only to have their expeditions scattered by the winds.

But for those who want to escape the rigours of our winters, there is hope. On average it the Mediterranean is warmer and sunnier than here but not drier. Indeed, exposed areas can be surprisingly wet. Between November and January, Gibraltar and Naples get well over twice as much rain as London, and Corfu has more than three times this figure.

So for those looking for reliable winter sunshine, it could be wise to plan on going further afield.

W. J. Burroughs

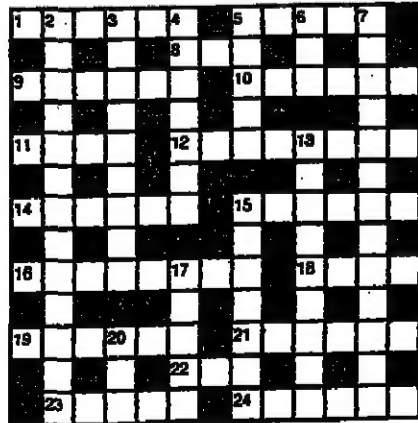


Rained off: Barcelona tennis club in the killer floods

### CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1736

Prizes of the Collins Concise Dictionary will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, December 8. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, December 10.

**ACROSS**  
1 Increase with interest (6)  
5 Wooden shoe (5)  
8 Check over (3)  
9 Fuzz (6)  
10 Haphazardly (6)  
11 Good (4)  
12 Devilish (8)  
14 Stitching (6)  
15 Ritual (6)  
16 Frenzied state (9)  
18 Ooze (4)  
19 Dog house (6)  
21 Awkward (6)  
22 Falsehood (3)  
23 Marily (5)  
24 Give over (6)



**DOWN**  
2 Arc de Triomphe boulevard (6,7)  
3 Restriction (9)  
4 Early part of night (7)  
5 Employees (5)  
6 Cove (3)  
7 Canterbury saint (6,1,6)  
13 Economic depression (9)  
15 Inclined (7)  
17 Revive in spirit (5)  
20 Old horse (3)

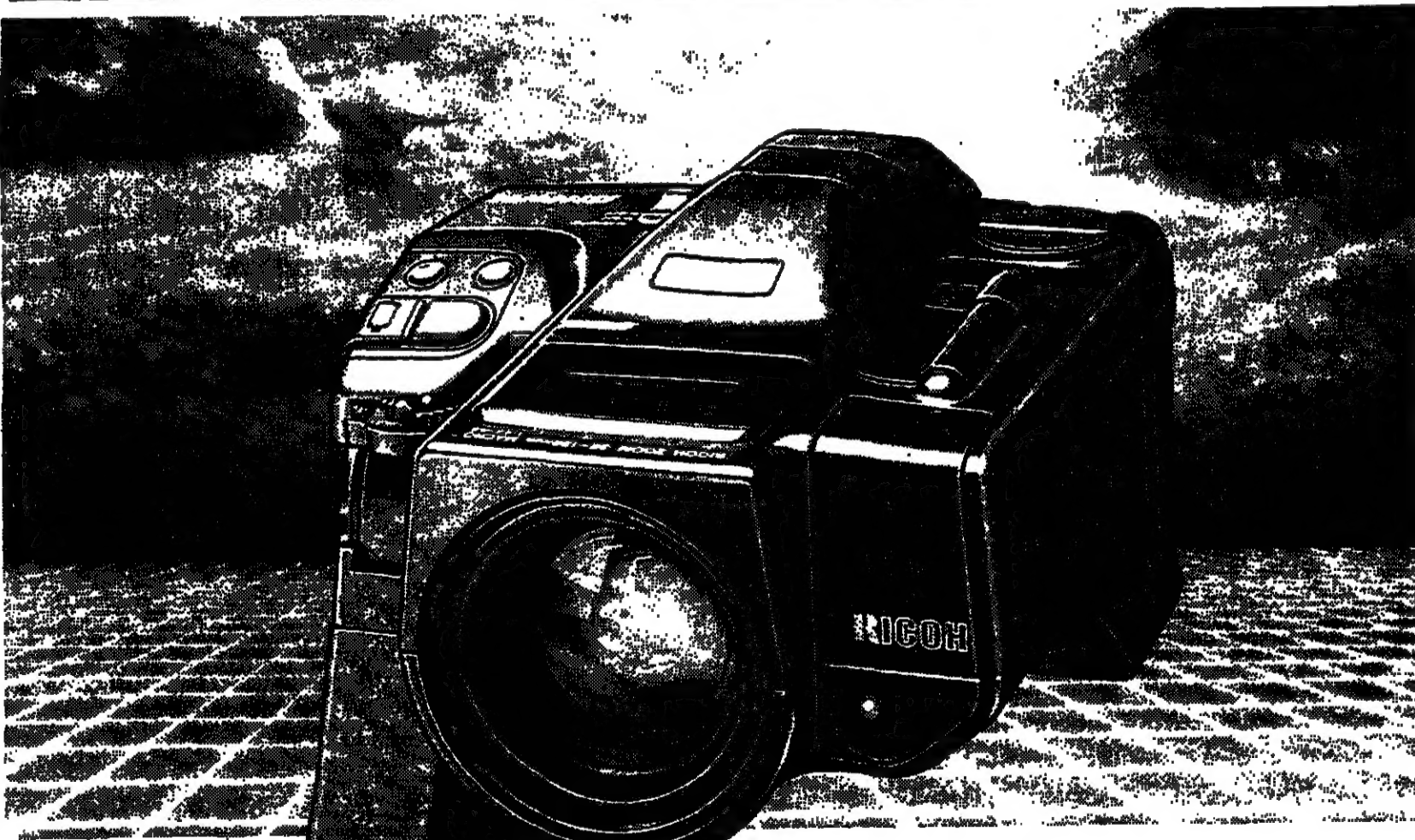
**SOLUTION TO NO 1735**  
ACROSS: 1 Bunker 4 Ballad 9 Pomfret 10 Leaks 11 Aida 12 Coryphoe 14 Nuclei 15 Walrus 18 Parasite 20 Kara 22 Romeo 23 Invoice 25 Anthem 26 Glances  
DOWN: 1 Bag 2 Nomadic 3 Eru 5 Alleyway 7 Dish 7 Dyspepsia 8 Stoop 11 Annapurna 13 Gemstone 16 Realign 17 Suid 19 Remit 21 Evil 24 Ere

The winners of prize concise No 1736 are Mrs P. G. Graham, Vireoforth, Horsham, Sussex; Mrs J. C. T. Jones, Northumberland; and P. Jackson, Boxton Close, Welbourn, Redditch, Worcester-shire.

**SOLUTION TO NO 1730**  
ACROSS: 1 Tangle 5 Album 8 Lug 9 Hegira 10 Angora 11 Nigh 12 Singsong 14 Age-old 15 Grubby 16 Piercing 18 Exon 19 Sludge 21 Lotion 22 Ace 23 Whorl 24 Strays  
DOWN: 2 Weeping Willow 3 Neighbour 4 Elapsed 5 Again 6 Bag 7 Marine biology 13 Sou-wester 15 Goggles 17 Ideal 20 Doo

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# The Venetian class in caution

**The teams which took part in the Open Series of the World Bridge Team Olympiad in Venice:**

<b>USA</b>	<b>Austria</b>
Seymour Deutsch	Heinrich Berger
Robert Hamman	Jan Fucik
Jane Jacoby	Alfred Kadetk
Jeff Meckstroth	Friedrich Kubec
Eric Rodwell	Wolfgang Meisl
Robert Wolt	Frank Tierschke
	HSC-ES, Vienna

# Salad leaf style

---

**Leaves of greens:** Joy Larkoom's vegetable garden

ton-hole leaves "providing texture rather than flavour" in a salad. I recognized Mizuna, having myself just planted some of this robust all-year-round Japanese salad green, which can be eaten raw or cooked lightly in oil. Mizuna is a spicier individual with long leaves, slightly nutty in flavour; some went into our lunch bucket, to make a lively addition to our salad.


The Larkoom vegetable plot boasts two poly-tunnels. They are "not beautiful, but invaluable when you're trying out precious crops of doubtfully hardiness", and moles are making sub-tunnels, so now and again a plant will disappear underground into their excavations. To me these eastern vegetables were an improvement on Aladdin's jewels. The Chinese Large Beauty Heart, a radish the size of a small parsnip, is greeny white outside, colouring to a inner purple. It has a crunchiness, mild taste, and is as unusual and attractive additive

- baskets and pots into shelter, or protect them with insulating material when very cold weather is forecast.
- Cut dead or dying stems from roses and prune repeat flowering kinds.
- Do not mulch over frozen ground — wait until milder conditions when the soil is workable.
- Check stored potatoes, onions and root vegetables for disease and decay.
- Plant any tulip bulbs you may still have.
- Take last hardwood cuttings, unless conditions are

*Perilla frutescens* is a tall, shapely plant whose Melissa-like leaves are exotically scented, a cross between geranium and coriander. I found a new fragrance also in the lemon-scented basil, a richly resinous Greek basil that was irresistible.

● Supplies of unusual herbs and vegetables: Suffolk Herbs, Sawyers Farm, Little Cornard, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 0NY  
J W Boyce, Bush Pastures, Lower Carter Street, Fordingham, Ely, Cambridgeshire CB7 3JU.

# Team works



Now Speelman translates his command of the centre into a direct attack against the Black King.

25 Ng4	26 Bxd4	27 e4d4	Qd6
27 Nd1	Nf6	28 f7	Qg6
29 Qc3	16	30 f5	Qg5

To enter *The Times* Winning Move competition, send your answer on a postcard with your name and address to: *The Times* Winning Move Competition, The Times, 1, Virginia Street, London EC2N 4DX. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday next week will win a *Times* wallet-sized personal chess computer. The winners names together with the winning move will be printed in *The*

**Solution to yesterday's position: 1 Rg7**  
 Last Saturday's competition was a position from the game Bogolybov-Capablanca, New York 1924. Black's winning coup was 1...Rc8 xc5

The three winners of *The Times* personal chess computers are: John Wiles-Jones of Conway, Gwynedd; B.J. Evans of Stockport, Cheshire and G.R. Merham of

## The Great Outdoors Under One Roof

[illegible]

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 £12.95 for 10, £17.95 for 15,  
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 ● A new culinary variety  
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 ● A new fruit  
 ● blackcurrent X Gooseberry  
 ● Heavy cropping  
 ● Spinefree

**Invicta and Jostaberry** £6.80 for any 2 plants,  
 £8.80 for 3, £11.35 for 4, £15.90 for 6.

**Fantasia Blackberry**  
 ● Exceptionally heavy cropping  
 ● Fruit about the size of a 10p coin

● Extremely heavy-cropping  
 ● Good flavour  
 ● Immune to mildew and big bad  
 ● Fruit resembles a blackcurrent but twice the size  
 ● Gooseberry flavour  
 ● Up to 20 cropping years  
 ● Excellent flavour



**Law Report December 3 1988 Court of Appeal**

---

**Defence of necessity in driving offence**

**Regina v Martin**  
Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Roch  
[Judgment November 29]  
The principles relating to a defence of necessity were stated by the Court of Appeal when quashing a conviction for driving while disqualified because the trial judge had pre-empted a defence of necessity by ruling that it was not available on such a charge.  
Their Lordships allowed an appeal by Colin Martin, aged 40, of 100, The Grange, Warrington, Cheshire, against conviction on his plea of guilty at Snaresbrook Crown Court before Judge Finney to a count of driving in contravention of section 99(b) of the Road Traffic Act 1972.  
He was sentenced to four months' imprisonment, suspended for two years and for breach of an earlier suspended four-month prison sentence, the operational period of that suspension was extended for a further two years.  
Mr N. J. Ley, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, and Mr S. N. Marshall for the Crown.

unless the appellant drove the son to work.

The appellant had a statement from a doctor which expressed the opinion that "in view of her mental condition it is likely that Mrs Martin would have attempted suicide if her husband did not drive her son to work."

The appellant's case on the facts was that he genuinely and, it was suggested, reasonably believed his wife would carry out that threat unless he did as she demanded. Despite the discreditable evidence he therefore drove the son and was in fact apprehended by the police within a quarter-mile of his house.

The sole question before their Lordships was whether those facts, if the jury had accepted them, or accepted as they might be true, amounted in law to a defence. If so, the appellant was entitled to a trial of the issue before the jury.

They would have had to be directed precisely on the precise nature and nature of the defence but the appellant's case would have been for them. As it was such a defence was preempted by the ruling. Should it have been?

Arising thus it was conveniently analysed as "a defence of circumstances".

2 The defence was available only if, from an objective standpoint, the accused could be said to be acting reasonably and proportionately in order to avoid a threat of death or serious injury.

3 Assuming the defence to be open to the accused on his account of the facts, the issue should be left to the jury, who should be directed to determine two questions:

(a) Was the accused, or might he have been, impelled to act as he did, as a result of a factor which may reasonably be believed to be the situation, he had good cause to fear that otherwise death or serious physical injury would result?

(b) Might a sober person of reasonable firmness, sharing the characteristics of the accused have responded to the situation by acting as the accused did?

4 The answers to both questions were "Yes" the jury would acquit. The defence of necessity would have been established.

That the defence was available in cases of reckless driving

Equally they could see no distinction in principle between threats of death, whether they posed a risk of death by murder, or by suicide, or indeed by accident. One could illustrate "accident" by considering a disqualified driver being driven by his wife, she suffering a heart attack in the remote area, and he needing instantly to get her to hospital.

It followed that the judge clearly did come to a wrong decision on a question of law and the appellant should have been allowed to raise the defence, for what it was worth, before the jury.

It was a great pity that that course was not taken. It was difficult indeed to believe that any jury would in fact have believed the improbable story which the appellant desired to advance.

As emerged when mitigation evidence was given, there was in the house at the time a brother of the son who was late for work, the brother was licensed to drive and was to do so. The suggestion was that he could not take his brother because of "a lot of aggravation in the house between them." Also it

**MR JUSTICE SIMON BROWN**, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appeal against conviction was as of right on a pure point of law. Namely, whether the defence of necessity was available to a charge of driving while disqualified that occurred in circumstances such as the appellant intended to raise.

At a private-room hearing before the appellant was arraigned the judge held that the defence was not available. He concluded that, once it was established that the appellant was driving and was disqualified the offence was established.

**Payments**

Conway was authority also for the proposition that the scope of the defence was no wider for reckless driving than for other serious offences, as pointed out in the judgment, "reckless driving can kill".

Their Lordships could see no material distinction between the offences of reckless driving and driving while disqualified so far as the application and scope of the defence of necessity was concerned.

**were taxab**

was a striking fact that when the applicant was apprehended by the police he was silent only on that occasion he felt constrained to drive.

However, those considerations were essentially for the jury.

Their Lordships had concluded that it would be inappropriate to apply the proviso to section 2 of the 1968 Act and dismiss the appeal. In the result the appeal had to be allowed and the conviction quashed.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Snaresbrook.

### Payments were taxable pension

In consequence of the ruling the appellant pleaded guilty and merely prayed in aid as mitigation on the circumstances on which he relied to establish the necessity for the killing. The court said, "But for the ruling he would have contested the case."

The appeal was brought under section 211(b) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 on the basis that the judgment of the court at trial should be set aside on the ground of a wrong decision of my question of law."

The circumstances which the appellant wished to advance by his appeal were of such a nature that he had no real necessity for them: that his wife had suicidal tendencies and on a number of occasions had attempted to take her own life.

On the day in question her husband, the appellant's stepson, had been so drunk that he had resorted to such an extent that he was bound to be late for work and at risk of losing his job. He had then asserted, the appellant drove him to work.

The appellant's wife was distraught, shouting and screaming and banging her head against the wall. More particularly, it was

**Johnson v Holleran (Inspector of Taxes)**  
Before Mr Justice Morritt  
[Judgment November 18]  
Judgment monthly payment made from an employer's pension fund made to a former employee who was declared redundant while absent from work through illness constituted an "income tax section" under paragraph 1(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970.

Mr Justice Morritt so held in the *Chancery Division* in dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mr John Francis Johnson, from a determination of West Dorset general commissioners that he had been properly assessed to Schedule E income tax in respect of such payments for 1983-84.

During 1982 the taxpayer was absent from his employment as a result of illness. He had the expiry of his period of sick leave when he was declared redundant by his employers, received a redundancy payment and informed them that because of his illness he

disability benefit by the trustees of the employer's pension fund.

He appealed against the 1983-84 assessment, claiming that he had received the payments totaling £6,656 in consequence of this being made redundant so that they were taxable under the provisions of section 187 of the 1970 Act (payments on retirement from office or employment) and thus, subject to the exemptions as provided in section 188(1) of the Act.

The commissioners dismissed the appeal holding that the payments of disability benefit were payments of a pension and were correctly assessed under section 182 of the Act (voluntary pensions).

The taxpayer in person; Mr Alan Moses for the Crown.

**MR JUSTICE MORRITT**

What is the taxpayer's case? What he is treated as "pension" payments had to be made (i) if the payments had to be made (i) after retirement - and he had not retired as he would work when his disability ceased, (ii) to

services and (iv) had to continue for life.

No judicial definition of "pension" existed but clearly the taxpayer's retirement was not a necessary condition for the classification of the payments as pension. Certainly his employment had to have ceased but not necessarily due to his retirement.

It was not disputed that the taxpayer's second condition was satisfied and his third was not a necessary one. The fact that the payments were made on account of the taxpayer's disability rather than because of his past services was immaterial. Moreover, it was immaterial that the payments would be discontinued should his disability cease.

The commissioners were entitled to conclude that the payments constituted a pension. However the Crown's case succeeded under paragraph 3 of section 181(1) of the Act and not, as the commissioners intended, as a virtue of section 182. In the result, the order for costs would be made.

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## PROPERTY

# Where the bell clangs

MPs looking for a London flat need a sense of timing: around Westminster the division bell rules, as Rachel Warren discovers

**P**ity the poor MP — or rather, the MP's spouse. Everything is neatly planned, the dinner party is going perfectly; then, from the hall, comes the sound of the division bell. Up jumps the Honourable Member, with no time for excuses. He or she has seven minutes, maybe eight, to make it to the Lobby — or face the anger of the whips.

Whether they run it, cycle it, cab it or drive it, an MP's choice of home or pied à terre is determined by the division bell, the Palace of Westminster's traditional means of summoning members of both Houses of Parliament to vote. Its radius has never been precisely determined, but certainly stretches as far as Mayfair's Burlington Street, to Victoria and Pimlico, to Waterloo and to the Oval.

For estate agents, the bell is a selling point, particularly around election time: mansion blocks within its area become "division blocks". British Telecom will install the bell if an MP lives within reach of the Lobby, but at a price — there is an annual charge of £103.

"It allows you a degree of flexibility if you want to entertain," says Jonathan Aitken, MP for Thanet South, who lives about five minutes' brisk run from the Commons.

"Though my wife is constantly complaining about the dramatic exit. There was an evening when former President Nixon was here with a number of high-powered European politicians, all talking about state-of-the-world stuff, and they simply could not believe that I had to up and leave them when the bell sounded."

The bell gives Aitken the luxury of popping home to read bedtime stories to his children. "Though the chances are that the bell will ring just as you get to the exciting bit," he says.

For Cecilia Goodlad, wife of Alastair Goodlad, MP for Eddisbury, the pernicious bell dictates her guest list. Given the speed with which it can dissipate a dinner party, she never has more than one or two MPs among other guests. Jim Gorman, husband of the Billericay MP Teresa Gorman, is equally disenchanted with the cream bell-box that rules their lives from the corner of the stairs. "It's very tiresome. It always goes off at the wrong time. Teresa thinks I should be sympathetic when it goes off at midnight. But I'm not."

Teresa Gorman herself has a love-hate relationship with her bell (which gets a firm rebuke with the butt of her umbrella when she wants to turn it off). "It's awful. It sounds like some old fire engine alarm which makes you jump out of your skin. But when it does go off in the middle of a dinner party it can give you a kind of status —

duty to the nation and all that — that is out of all real proportion to your importance. When I was dining next door and heard my bell go off through the wall, I was able to make probably the most dramatic exit I've ever made in my life."

"Often I get to the House and I'm told I've just made it with a couple of minutes to spare. You can't stop to sort out dishes or even turn off the stove. I've often left things cooking."

Prudential's sales manager Gerald Fitz-Gibbon says that prices in the division bell area range from around £100,000 to £150,000 for a one-bedroom flat, £130,000 to £300,000 for two-bedroom and £700,000 to £800,000 for the occasional elegant house on a Westminster square.

Fitz-Gibbon also handles a new development of more reasonably priced Crown Estate properties which could prove potential MP pied-à-terres from studio apartments starting at £105,000 to a £159,000 two-bedroom flat — on the corner of John Islip Street and Ponsonby Terrace.

There are currently a number of larger new Crown Estate developments that can offer the division bell attraction, such as Lindsay Square beside Bessborough Gardens, where 29 town houses are

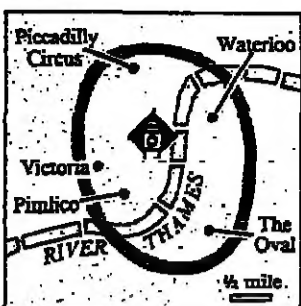
selling for between £365,000 and £675,000 — the first such properties to come on to the market for some time.

The "sound" of the bell carries surprisingly far south of the river, and has affected property prices in some unlikely areas. The story is told of the MP who lives near Brixton and installed the bell, a little optimistically. The first time it rang he dashed for his car and was doing well until he was booked for speeding along the Embankment.

Edna Hunter, principal of Hunter Estates, ranks her parliamentary flats from the southern borders of Westminster in the busy Vauxhall Bridge Road, northwards through streets bordering on Westminster Cathedral. "Traditionally the most popular street for MPs," she says, "is Marsham Street, just a block away from the Palace."

In Marsham Street is Lockets restaurant, where the division bell has become a tourist attraction. It is one of the 25 regular parliamentary haunts looked after for British Telecom by Joan Garbutt, who often gets calls from estate agents asking about the bell's radius.

One property for sale (by Prudential) in the division bell area is a £140,000 old Dutch barge, ripe for conversion, moored off Sunderland Wharf on the Thames. But any MP tempted to buy it and install a bell should mark Teresa Gorman's words: "It is like being in the war, when the siren could sound at any time. You can't settle."



The great divide: Jonathan Aitken, MP, and his wife Lolita, for whom the bell tolls, usually during dinner parties. Left, the main culprit at Westminster; top left, the area within its radius



PHOTOGRAPHS BY MARK PEPPER

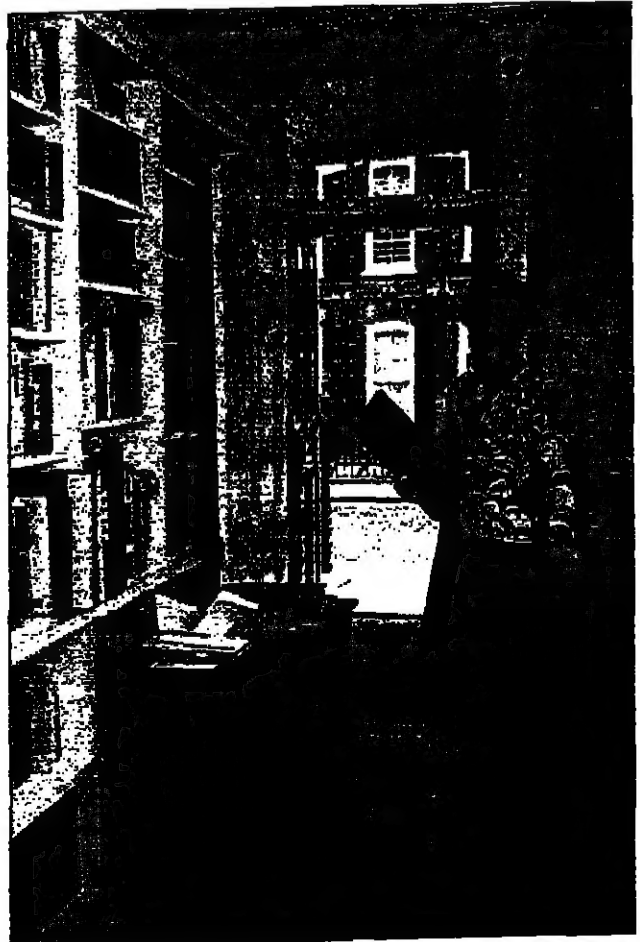


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Teresa Gorman, MP: "The division bell can give you a status that is out of all real proportion to your importance"





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